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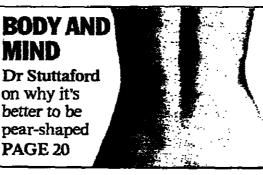
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Imogen Stubbs on loving Chekhov PLUS: Alain de Botton's verdict on Amanda Craig PAGES 40, 41



THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28 1996

BODY AND MIND **Dr Stuttaford** on why it's better to be





WANTED □ Executive. Director. Consultant. Graduate.

appointments, 32 pages **SECTION 3**

116 ill and 20 new victims a day

Food poison outbreak kills 4 more

By Shirley English

FOUR people died yesterday in a Scottish food poisoning epidemic that has left more than a hundred ill and at least two children with with kidney damage. Another man died in

hospital on Tuesday.

The outbreak, which has been linked to cooked meat and pies supplied by Scot-land's butcher of the year, is: believed to be claiming twenty victims a day. Further cases are expected, since the illness which can be spread from person to person as well as through contaminated food — can take more than a week to

The butcher concerned supplies up to thirty wholesale and retail outlets across Scotland, but the products are not labelled and the Scottish Office last night warned people all over the country to beware of any cooked or pre-prepared meat bought in the past week.

in America as the harries bug - and the present cpidemic is the worst recorded in Britain. At least forty people were being treated in hospital last night and Sir David Carter, Scotland's Chief Medical Officer, said: This has to be regarded as a serious outbreak" Lanarkshire's pub-lic health consultant Dr Syed Ahmed said: "I think it is going to get worse before it gets better."

It takes fewer than a hondred E-coli organisms to cause an infection whose symptoms include diarrhoea, often bloody, severe abdominal cramps and vomiting. Children and the elderly are suscep-

tible to infection, with those

aged under four the most vulnerable - although all those who have died in the present epidemic have been over 60.

Two of the victims - men ged 80 and 69 - had attended a free lunch at Wishaw Old Parish Church on Monday last week, when the pies were supplied by John M. Barr and Son. Two women in their seventies from the area and another from Bonnybridge, 30 miles to the north, have also died and another woman from Wishaw was critically ill at Glasgow Royal Infirmary.

The total number of suspected cases had last night reached 116, with 107 of them in Lanarkshire. Nineteen children have been taken ill and a girl aged seven and a boy of three are on dialysis after suffering kidney damage. Seven adults were said to be giving cause for concern. Barr, and Son.

people, has been Wishaw's town buither for 28 years and a few months ago was named Scottish butcher of the year. Mr Barr was first told of the outbreak on Friday night and withdrew all meats that might have been contaminated before opening on Saturday morning. He had been allowed to continue sellingfresh meat, but he closed as usual at lunchtime yesterday. and does not expect to reopen until environmental health officers have completed their

investigation, probably tomorrow. Other outlets in Lothian. Ayrshire, Glasgoe, Falkirk and Lanarkshire which sell Mr Barr's meats were alerted

do not take into account the

mix of property or seasonal

factors. The average price of

new flats and maisonettes has

risen by nearly a third over the

past 12 months. Older and

converted flats showed a rise

of nearly 9 per cent, with the average increase in flat prices being 11 per cent.

Halifax Building Society fig-

ures next week are expected to

confirm that the recovery is

continuing. Last month the society reported a L6 per cent increase, the highest monthly

Rising flat prices were yes-

terday hailed by estate agents

as evidence that more first time buyers have decided to

rise since February 1994

commit themselves.

over the weekend. These included three Scotmid stores in Bonnybridge and officials have advised people not to eat meat products bought from those shops or from Mr Barr

in Wishaw. Yesterday Mr Barr's solici-tor, Owen Ness, said: "He is overwhelmed by how grave the situation has become. He feels the deepest sympathy for the families of those who have

"He cannot comment on the eventual outcome of the inquiry, other than to say that he has co-operated fully with the environmental health officers. He himself is satisfied that they have done their utmost to complete this inquiry as soon as possible. He and his staff are giving them every

The bacteria responsible for the epidemic first emerged in Britain in the early 1980s when a handful of cases were reportea. The number has rise since, reaching a 656 in 1994 and 1,039 last year. Scotland has a much higher reported rate of infection than the rest of Britain, and the biggest previous outbreak -- which affected more than a hundred people in 1994 - was also in

The infection is usually caused by undercooked minced beef products, especially beefburgers, but the bacteria can also be transmitted through milk, cheese and untreated water. They can also be passed from person to person unless hygiene is scrupulous, which has resulted in outbreaks in hospitals, childcare centres, nursing homes and other institutions.



Satu-Carita Jaaskelainen, from Finland, on her rounds in Homerton hospital

Race row as black MP attacks jobs for Finns

By Alice Thomson and Dominic Kennedy

DIANE ABBOTT, the Labour MP. has launched an attack on "blonde, blue-eyed Finnish girls" who work in her local

hospital.
The MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington accuses the Finnish nurses of being unfit to work at Homerton Hospital in Hackney because they are white and foreign and "may never have met a black person before, let alone

touched one". Ms Abbott, Britain's first black woman MP, says that the hospital should never have employed 30 Scandinavians to work in the multicultural East End of London. She was immediately branded "racist" by the Tory party. Ian Bruce, the Tory secretary of the all-party Finland group of MPs, said: "I have never heard such racist rubbish from a Member of Parliament in recent years. It shows complete ignorance.

She is using racial stereotypes which are wholly inappropriate." Ms Abbott's remarks were described as "hysterical and crass" by Homerton hospital. It said the Finns were hired because of a severe nursing shortage. The Finnish nurses Page II were furious. Satu-Carita

Jaaskelainen, 25, a blue-eyed redhead from Helsinki, who arrived to work as a staff nurse in Hackney last month said: "I can't find the words to

express how angry I am because we are all human beings. She said she only knew two of her fellow nurses from Finland who were blonde and one of the nurses is black. "We do have blue eyes as much as Indian people have brown eyes. There is nothing I can do about that. It's ridiculous. I don't see what difference it makes if I did have blonde



competence in my work." she

In a column in her local newspaper, the Hackney Gazette, Ms Abbott wrote: "I am sure that these young women are charming. But they are basically here to improve their English and are unlikely to give the British health service

a lifetime's commitment". She added: "I am surprised that they choose to bring in blonde, blue-eyed girls from Finland, instead of nurses from the Caribbean who know the language and understand British culture and institutions. Are Finnish girls, who may never have met a black person before, let alone touched one, best suited to nurse in multicultural

The Finnish Embassy said that most Finns were not blonde and blue-eyed and that it was ludicrous to say that Finnish nurses had never met anvone black.

The outspoken MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington said that black nurses had been subjected to racism by being confined to the worst jobs. "My mother was a nurse and I know Continued on page 2, col 5

French lorry drivers scent victory after retiring deal

IN AN attempt to buy off striking lorry drivers, the French Government yesterday pledged to fund earlier retirement and shorter working hours in a draft agreement between union leaders and haulage companies.

The lorry-blockades of roads, ports and fuel depots that have paralysed the country for ten days remained in place, however, as union leaders pressed their demands for higher wages

After a 20-hour negotiating session Robert Cros, the government-appointed mediator, announced that a consensus had been reached allowing drivers with 25 years' experience to retire at 55, rather than 60, on 75 per cent of salary. Under the draft accord, the state agreed to help to fund benefits for retired lorry driv-

ers from the age of 5712. Government also agreed that haulage companies would pay reduced payroll charges in return for reducing working hours. Government officials said last night that an end to the dispute was imminent, but manding a 10 per cent wage rise, described a 1 per cent offer by employers as "insult-

ing".
"Things have moved for-ward," Roger Poletti of the powerful Force Ouvrière said, out he insisted that the 240 blockades that have brought chaos to French roads would be maintained until a full agreement was reached. Bernard Pons, the Trans-

port Minister, said "We are on the verge of ending this crisis. We are pursuing our efforts on the pay issue so that we can reach an agreement swiftly." Other unions immediately accused the Government of

to buy its way out of the with dispute

A "day of action" called by union chiefs had little effect yesterday, but a 24-hour strike by rail workers blocked the main line between Paris and the port of Le Havre and a similar stoppage disrupted rail traffic at Nantes. A twoday strike by Air France and Air France Europe cut one third of long-haul flights and

half the domestic service. With more than 1,000 British drivers still stranded on the Continent, John Major yesterday called on the French Government to intervene to free them. "We think they have an obligation firstly to end this dispute as speedily as possible and secondly to meet compensation claims for damage and offer guarantees that

Desperate to avoid a repeti Continued on page 2, col 1

Lorrymen's woes, page 14 Travel News, page 43



walk -- it'll be a lot quicker"

House prices still rising in England

By SARA McConnell The figures are based on completed property sales but

HOUSE prices continue to rise in most of England, with London and the South East enjoying the biggest increases, according to official figures from the Land Register. Prices in Greater London rose by 6.3 per cent in the quarter to September, while other parts of the South East, including Buckinghamshire and Hert-fordshire, saw increases of nearly 7 per cent.

At the other end of the scale, prices in Merthyr Tydfil in Wales dropped by 16 per cent between the second and third quarters of this year, while prices in the North and Midlands were patchy.



The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk

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Bentine: joked with his royal visitor

Council tax set for 6% increase

Council taxes are likely to rise by at least 6 per cent next year after an even tighter squeeze on local government.

Town hall leaders had asked John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, for an extra £2.3 billion to maintain services at their present level, but for the third year running he obtained less than half that amount Page 10

Goldsmith puts the question

Sir James Goldsmith has disclosed the wording of the referendum question his par-ty wants putting to the British people: Do you want the United Kingdom to be part of a federal Europe or do you want the United Kingdom to return to an association of sovereign nations that are part of a common trading

market?"...

Dying Goon Bentine joked with Prince

By Alan Hamilton

MICHAEL BENTINE, a founding member of the 1950s radio series The Goon Show, has died from prostate cancer. He was 72. The Prince of Wales was among his last visitors at the Royal Marsden

Hospital in London. Richard Bentine, the comedian's son. said the Prince had spent an hour with his father on Monday, when the dying performer was barely able to recognise his own family. During the visit, Bentine had revived, recognised his royal visitor

and engaged in a ridiculous funny conversation". He added: "It was an extraordinarily kind and gentle gesture." Born in Watford, Hertfordshire, of a Peruvian father and educated at Eton, Bentine had a lifelong interest in the paranormal, and organised faith-healing

sessions to help mend the Prince's arm

after he broke it in a polo accident in 1990. St James's Palace said last night that the Prince - a lifelong admirer of The Goons - had been very sad to learn of Bentine's death. Sir Harry Secombe, a fellow-founder of the Coons with Spike

Milligan and the late Peter Sellers, has contacted Bentine's family to offer condolences.

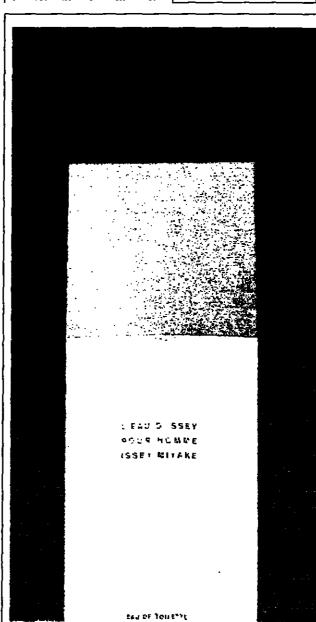
Bentine appeared in 41 episodes of The Goon Show before embarking on a solo career with television series such as The Bumblies and It's A Square World. His private life was not without tragedy; his parents and two of his daughters died of cancer, and he refused chemotherapy treatment for himself, saying he had seen what it had done to his children.

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Heseltine basks in reflected glory as Scots toast an absent friend

issing from the Spectator-Highland Park Whisky awards ceremony yesterday. the Chancellor of the Exchequer had nevertheless started it in style. Pink with pleasure at his 26p cut in whisky duty. managers from Highland Park beamed across every table at the Savoy.

At the dais, viewed (from my vantage point) through a bank of fresh flowers, Michael Heseltine, guest of honour and eloquent as ever, radiated the gracious, detached air he now

has never quite got over being called "President". Staring mistily over the foliage and into the middle distance, our Deputy Prime Minister looked as though he should be wearing medals, a hip-to-shoulder silk sash, or a plumed hat.

The Editor of the Spectator, Frank Johnson, recalled Heseltine's command of the regeneration of Merseyside -"the Curzon of the Scouses," he said. I recognised the idiom and thought-process of a fellow-satirist. Frank Johnson was parliamentary sketchwriter for The Times for much

of the 1980s. The award of Backbencher of the Year went jointly to Julian Brazier (C. Canterbury) and Paul Flynn (Lab, Newport W). Both are fearless men with that faintly nutty quality without which it is hard to be noticed on a modern back bench.

Captain Brazier, who from the backbenches has relied sometimes more on the battering ram of persistence than the rapier of intellect, has mounted magnificent rearguard actions in defence of the institution of marriage and the married quarters of service POLITICAL SKETCH

eople. He gave a grateful, likeable speech of thanks. ending in a story about General Sherman in the jungle. which nobody could quite understand. Brazier could become the Eric Cantona of the Tory benches.

The indefatigable Mr Flynn used the Savoy for yet another assault on bullbars and tab-

loid newspapers. Peer of the Year, Earl Russell, caused laughter when he admitted that the hereditary principle was a lottery, but many are in favour of lotteries these days". Conrad Russell is Bertrand Russell's

grandson. In life's genetic

ning may strike twice". Menzies Campbell (Lib-Dem. Fife NE), awarded the Member to Watch trophy. caused gales of laughter with a story from his younger days

which my colleague on the Times Diary recounts within. The Home Office's Ann Widdecombe (Minister to Watch) repeated, against her-self, the "Doris Karloff" gibe which tabloids have used against her.

A gritty and plainspeaking woman, what Miss woman, Widdecombe lacks in grace

storm, he suggested, "light- she makes up for in honesty and humour. She described a day in which she had to spend an afternoon in television studios explaining a decision not to deport someone whose deportation she had spent the morning defending. Rowing, she said, was the sport which best prepared you for politics: "You look one way and move the other."

As Debater of the Year, Robin Cook mischievously thanked David Mellor and Michael Heseltine for guaranteeing the success of his speech on the Scott Report by their

own interruptions. Michael Forsyth, winner of the Parliamentarian of the Year award and inventor of the "tartan tax" tag. was credited with having turned Scottish devolution into an embarrassment for the Labour Front bench. Congratulating him later on his award, Forsyth's Labour Shadow, George Robertson la previous winner), reminded him that final judgment would come from the Scottish people.

I hope he enjoys the award in his retirement." Lovely people, Parlia-mentarians.

French lorry driver dispute spreads chaos into Britain

By KATHRYN KNIGHT

THE paralysis created by French lorry drivers' dispute spread into southern Britain sterday, as hundreds of freight vehicles were mar-shalled away from the Port of Dover into a waiting compound near Ashford in Kent.

The thousand or so drivers who had entered the park by midday had faced waits of up to 24 hours for permission to leave the compound and drive on to the coast. With the lorry park filled to capacity many: ing for the port. Kent police side roads leading to it filled and Ashford council organwith queues of juggernauts.
In Dover, the closure of the

Channel Tunnel, after the recent fire, combined with the huge volume of lorries battling their way to the Continent led to queues of trucks stretching for miles out of the town. Twenty miles away in Ashford, in an attempt to impose some order on the

wait up to six hours at Dover for sailings to Zeebrugge in Belgium rather than Calais, a journey of three hours 45 minutes compared with just over an hour to the French A spokeswoman for Dover Harbour Board said that ferry

police escort.

companies had arranged extra sailings for the freight lorries and they were trying to help drivers to get away as quickly as possible.

ised a quasi-military opera-tion in which all drivers had to

report to the lorry park and obtain a numbered ticket.

Drivers, many waiting on side

roads after the park became

full, waited to be let out in

convoy, 25 at a time, under

Having escaped the Ashford

turmoil, drivers then had to

'Lord Chancellor's role should go'

Chancellor is always a spokesman for the

government in the furtherance of its

on the administration of justice had been controversial. The Lord Chancellor (Lord

Mackay of Clashfern) as a Cabinet

member represented the voice of reform

But the view of judges was rather different, Lord Steyn said. They did not

wholeheartedly share the modern ado-

ration of the deity of economy". he said.

"On the whole they put justice first." That

view could best be put by the Lord Chief

Justice, Lord Steyn suggested. "He should be the head of the judiciary in

but not all judges that the Lord Chancel-

for no longer represents their views when

these conflict with those of Government

His remarks echoed concerns of some

guided by a Treasury perspective.

Recently, he said, financial constraints

party political agenda."

England and Wales."



Lorries queueing yesterday along the A2070 near Ashford, where they are being held until a ferry is available

The only consoling thought for British drivers was the rumour that English police were being less than helpful to French lorry-drivers who had

made it over to this side of the Channel giving wrong direc-tions and "accidental" misinformation. Harry Keep, from Croydon. had been in the lorry park since 10.30pm on Tuesday. "I got down to Dover, got told to turn round by the police and come back here and have been

here ever since. I am supposed to be picking up furniture in Italy on Thursday morning and if I don't get there I don't get paid, but it's not looking too good is it? My job's on the line here." Last week Mr Keep spent five days stuck in a blockade

150 miles out of Calais. "In the

Lord Steyn went on to call for similar

reforms in respect of the office of

Attorney-General, a post at present held

by Sir Nicholas Lyeli, QC. That office should be removed from the political

arena and made an independent office

outside government. Lord Steyn said.

Alternatively, he should hand over his

role in supervising criminal proceedings

and in occassionally instituting civil

figure responsive to public pressure."

There were safeguards against any abuse

of his office but those depended on weak

conventions, such as that he did not take

orders from Government but could seek

ministers' views. Another convention

was that he was not influenced by party political considerations but could take

account of public policy.

The Attorney General was a "political

proceedings.

rather than Calais, causing end I'd had enough, so I drove more disruption to their plans. over fields to get away, on to over fields to get away, on to Calais where I had to dump the lorry and come over to Dover as a foot passenger. The lorry's still there," he said. "Conditions over there are terrible. We were given a stick of bread and a bottle of water to last us days and when we asked about food, the French

police said: 'Eat the grass'." Martin Scrowther and Colin Morris were enjoying a cup of tea and a cigarette before heading off home. "We've both been told to forget it," Mr Scrowther said. "We've been here since midnight waiting and our companies have now told us to turn back. I've got to try again on Saturday and hope for the best. The problem is that I get paid per trip so I don't earn anything if I don't deliver the goods, even if I've

spent 12 days on the road.

There's lots of guys like me who will end up out of pocket." Mr Morris, whose company is based in Braintree, Essex. said he feared that his boss, who owns the eight lorries, could be put out of business.

means he's losing money like there's no tomorrow. It's all very well talking about compensation but it takes forever and it could come too late." The jame was preventing Peter Horsley, who had driven from his Manchester-based haulage firm on Tuesday, from rescuing a colleague who

"He's going to find it really tough. Something like this

had been stranded on the Continent in a broken-down lorry since Monday morning. "I ve been sent with a trailer to rescue this poor guy in Berlin who broke down as he was on his way to deliver

goods to Poland. He's got

dangerous resins in the back of his cab which need to be kept at a constant temperature but he's running out of diesel to keep the fridge going.

"He can't leave the vehicle and he's waiting for me." Mr Horsley said. "I got to Dover last night but was turned away so I have been waiting here since midnight until I can go on to Zeebrugge. God knows what I will find there."

Unsurprisingly, sympathy for their French colleagues was in short supply. They're holding everyone to ransom." Mr Scrowther said. "You can sympathise to an extent, but their conditions are already better than ours as they stand and they've got no right to drag us all down in their All westerness do is get our

Block on parole unlawful

denied parole "solely because of his refusal to admit guilt, the High Court ruled

The Parole Board decided that Ronald Powell. 46. was not "an acceptable risk" for release because he had maintained his innocence. Two judges quashed the decision yesterday and imposed an early deadline for his case to be reconsidered. Legal experts said that the ruling could affect dozens of other prisoners who had maintained their

Lawyers attack bugging powers

Government proposals allowing police to bug private property are incompatible with the European Conven-tion on Human Rights according to three leading barristers whose opinions were sought by Liberty, the human rights group. The Police Bill is in its committee

Faulty heaters killing more

Faulty gas appliances and blocked chimneys are killing an increasing number of people, the CO-Gas Safety group said. It demanded gov. ernment action to tackle the problems a which that year killed depeople and which the group alleged, are whysenthe gas industry.

Scottish link to Budget leak Abbett's attack. "I think it is racist. What has the colour of

The search for the Whitehall er hair got to do with her mole who leaked the Budget papers has been switched to the Scottish Office. Detectives from Scotland Yard are planning to interview Scottish Office staff based in London and Edinburgh who had access to the 100 documents which were handed over to

the Daily Mirror. Army blows up boy's bomb kit

An army bomb disposal team sealed off a housing estate for three hours while they carried out a controlled explosion on a schoolboy's chemistry kit. They were called in after Glynn Towers, 16, blew up his bedroom in an experiment with homemade explosives on the Darrass Hall estate near Newcastie upon Tyne.

Lorry strike deal Continued from page (negotiators said. But with two

tion of last year's crippling 24-day transport strike, President Chirac personally applied pressure for a quick resolution

Local authorites have imposed rationing to ensure sufficient fuel for emergency vehicles, long queues formed at many petrol stations and school buses stooped running in parts of southern France through lack of fuel. Farmers have reported feed shortages due to the disruption of grain shipments and several factories have been forced to stop

Any agreement to end the strike will have to be approved by union members, union

head of the judiciary.

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

ONE of the most senior judges in England and Wales last night called for

the removal of the Lord Chancellor as the

Lord Steyn, a law lord, said: "The

proposition that a Cabinet minister must

be head of our judiciary in England is no longer sustainable on either constitution-

al or pragmatic grounds." He also called

for the removal of the office of Attorney-

General who supervises criminal pro-

In a controversial address to the Ad-

ministrative Law Bar Association, Lord

Steyn said that the Lord Chancellor gave

the appearance of speaking neutrally and

impartially as head of the judiciary. But

he went on: "The truth is different. Under

governments of all complexions, the Lord

ceedings, from the political arena.

of their three main demands now agreed in principle, some union leaders were already claiming victory last night. By agreeing to help fund the

demands, Alain Juppe, the deeply unpopular prime minister, may have won himself a much-needeed respite and avoided the sort of widespread labour rebellion that brought the country to its knees last winter.

But at a time of poor economic performance. widepread anger and rising unemployment in both the private and public sectors, he has set a dangerous precedent starkly at odds with his calls for cuts in state spending.

In Ashford's lorry park waiting drivers swapped tales

of woe over a fry-up and mugs of tea. Many feared that their jobs were at risk, with the smaller haulage companies losing large sums during the French dispute. Others who had spent the night in the their driver cabin in the park. reflected gloomily on extra days spent away from the family and longer onward journeys from 'Zeebrugge

MP in 'blonde nurses' row

Continued from page 1 many nurses. Black nurses are leaving the profession all the time because of racism and

lack of career development. For years many black nurses have found themselves confined to the night shift and unglamorous specialisms like mental health and geriatric nursing," she said.

Her comments have provoked letters of complaint. But Ms Abbott insisted her remarks were not racist. She said: "My argument is not that they shouldn't employ white nurses. My argument is that they should employ local

caused "deep upset" to both patients and staff. "We have always thought that colour is not important, it is your professionalism that counts," said Carol Bailey, the Homerton's director of human

resources. She added: "Of course we would take on black nurses if we could. But the fact is that like every other London hospital, we are facing a huge shortage of applicants."

Patients made it clear they thought the Finnish nurses were highly professional. Miss Jaaskelainen's patient. Regina Spio, from Chana, who is being treated for stom-A spokesman for the hospi-tal said her comments had surgery ward, condemned Ms

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Stephen Scott, a non-executive director of the hospital trust, has written to Ms Abbott: "I take it that your hysterical tirade about blonde, blue-eyed girls from Finland also includes those from Northern Ireland and Eire." The Royal College of Nursing last night said that Ms Abbott had seriously overreacted. "Nursing is a multi-cultural profession," it said.

The Finnish nurses were

begines to Britain by a miles-ing agency to fill the shortfall in paining staff. Arioner 20

in training staff. Arother 20 and the to arrive next year. They will be joined by ten

black and white nurses from

South Africa. The hospital has

42 per cent black or Asian

nurses in line with the local

population.

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BY JOHN ASHWORTH AND MICHAEL EVANS

AFTER four years protecting the safety of the realm against spies and saboteurs, the former MI5 chief Dame Stella Rimington emerged in a new guise yesterday, with a top job helping to protect the interests of Britain's best-known store chain.

As a non-executive director of Marks & Spencer, her world will not contain quite the secrecy of her previous occupation, having more to do now with underwear than undercover, but the High Street giant managed to enter into the spirit of things by refusing to say

However, the files reveal a previous link. Dame Stella, 61, was once photographed entering her local M&S store in London for a little shopping. The picture appeared in a national newspaper, which forced her to move house for security reasons, much to her regret.

Since retiring as Director-General of the Security Service in April, she has been acclimatising herself to the "outside world" beyond countering espionage, terrorism and

After her appointment was announced by the company, she let it

said she had been in dispute

with the school for several

years over sex education and

contraception advice given

outside the context of chastity

Three Counties Radio yester-

day, Mrs Follett said: "I am

terribly sorry that the girl's

mother has taken this stand. I believe that she's a brilliant

pupil and she does deserve her

prize. I would very much like

to give it to her because I

approve of women who

believe that the choice has to

be down to the individual.

With Emily's List, the ones

who we support are pro-choice. They are not pro-

abortion. I am sorry that this

very personal issue has been

made into a political one by

against Catholic women. Part of my family is Catholic. 1

have deep respect for Catho-

lies and that is why I am

coming to the school. We have

Roman Catholic women on

Emily's List who are pro-

A statement issued by the school said that it respected the reasons Emilia had given

for not accepting the award. It

went on: "Emilia is a good

of her being asked to leave the

"It is our practice to invite

public figures, both clergy and

lay, to present awards. Mrs

Follett has been helpful to the

school in organising work-

experience for a student and in

supporting a project in Ugan-

da which is sponsored by our

school, as is alleged.

"We have no discrimination

the mother.

"I'm anti-abortion but I do

In an interview with BBC

and marriage.

be joining the board. "As well as being a long-standing customer of theirs. I am a great admirer of their management style, and their ability to change with the times," she said.

I think that my own experience of managing a public service organ-isation through a period of great change will enable me to bring a useful additional dimension to the board team."

During her four years as Director-General of MIS, she became Britain's best-known spy chief, shrugging off media nicknames such as "the housewife superspy" and delivering several keynote lecinto the changing role of the service. Her time marked a watershed in its history, introducing a new degree of openness which brought the division out of the Cold War and firmly into the Nineties.

The first female in the post, and the first Director-General to be publicly named, she maintained a high profile, including appearances at the Oxford Union.

Writing recently in The Times, she said that life as head of MI5 frequently involved "dashing in for a trolley-load of convenience food on your way home from work". She has been enjoying her new freedom

the pleasures of normal life, including the joys of using her free bus pass to travel around London.

In July, Dame Stella received a job offer from Channel 4 to front a game show with former Soviet double agent Oleg Gordievsky. But she made it clear to friends that she wanted a responsible and stimulating part-time job. She had hoped to become Master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and was interviewed for the post. Although she greatly impressed the college, there was already a strong internal candidate and she was turned down. M&S said it would not comment

ment because "that is not something we would talk about outside". Her appointment was among a series of boardroom changes after several directors decided to retire. Nige Coine, executive director of the company's international group, will leave next March after 37 years. The corporate affairs executive director David Sieff is taking up a nonexecutive position.

Dame Stella will start her new job

on January 1. A spokeswoman for the store chain said that her salary would be published in the company's annual report next year. At MI5 she earned about £90,000 a year.

Schoolgirl snubs Labour candidate in abortion clash

By JOANNA BALE

A PROSPECTIVE Labour MP has become embroiled in an anti-abortion row at a Roman Catholic school in the constituency she will contest at the neral election. A 14-year-old girl boycotted a prizegiving ceremony last night because she was due to receive her award from Barbara Follett, who describes herself as prochoice on abortion.

The girl's mother said that her daughter was asked to leave the comprehensive school because she refused to accept the junior school award for modern languages from Mrs Follett, wife of the millionaire novelist Ken Follett and a friend of Tony Blair. Last night the school denied

About 20 parents with antiabortion placards picketed John Henry Newman Roman Catholic School in Stevenage, Hertfordshire last night as Mrs Follett and hundreds of other parents arrived. Earlier some of the parents had been escorted off the school

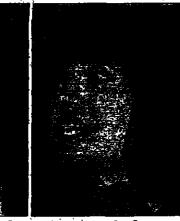
premises by police.
One placard read: "Follett's folly - Emily's List". Mrs Follett, a former "image maker" to the Labour Party, founded Emily's List which raises

money for women wishing to stand as Labour candidates. Women who are sponsored must sign a declaration that they will be pro-choice in line with the 1992 Labour election

The schoolgirl Emilia Klepacka said My conscience would not allow me to accept the prize from someone who is anti-life in the things she has done and proposes to do and who discriminates against Catholics who wish to become MPs." She said that her classmates were giving her moral support. Emilia is backed by her mother Kinga,

a Polish Catholic. Mrs Klepacka and her husband Stanislaw, an architect, pray outside abortion clinics and offer help to patients. She said: "The school is endorsing a woman who has founded an organisation to provide career opportunities in the culture of

"Her organisation is ensuring that only women who support pro-abortion legislation are elected as Labour MPs, which rules out girls from Roman Catholic schools unless they are prepared to go against their consciences and their Church." Mrs Klepacka



Emilia Klepacka refused to accept a prize from Barbara Follett at a Catholic school last night



Roisin McAliskey, who is 412 months pregnant, arriving at court yesterday. She was remanded in custody at Holloway prison for a week

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

THE elder daughter of Bernadette McAliskey, the former nationalist MP, is at risk of serious complications with her pregnancy while she awaits extradition to Germany on IRA bomb

charges, a court was told yesterday. Roisin McAliskey, 25, looked pale as she walked into Bow Street Magistrates' Court in London but was able to wink and wave to supporters in the public gallery, including her sister

Pregnant McAliskey 'faces health risk in jail'

minute hearing.
Ronald Bartle, the stipendiary magistrate, was told that the German authorities were preparing charges of

attempted murder arising from a

base in Osnabrück. Miss McAliskey's solicitor, Gareth Peirce, did not request bail but said that a full application would be made at the next hearing. Miss McAliskey was 42 months pregnant, she said. "There is health." Mrs Peirce added: "Through me, she would like to say she is innocent of the offences." Miss McAliskey, a graduate of

Queen's University, Belfast, was arrested by the RUC at her parents' home in Co Tyrone last Wednesday. She will be held at Holloway prison. The German authorities are seeking

to extradite a second person in connection with the attack in June. James Corry, 28, of Belfast, was remanded in custody in Dublin yester-

chief as litter bug

A VILLAGE store owner who set up a hidden video camera to trap the person dumping rubbish on his doorstep found that the offender was the chairman of the parish council. Jim Mitchell, owner of the newsagent's shop next door, was filmed dropping piles of litter four times over six

weeks, a court was told. pupils.
"The school is not aware Ivan Prentice, 52, and his brother Austin, 49, who run that she is in favour of abortion. The governors' polithe Londis store in Carlton cy and the school's teaching is Colville, near Lowestoft, Suffully in accordance with the folk, handed the videotape Roman Catholic Church's evidence to the police. Mitchell. 50, who is also an indepenteaching on these matters."

dent Suffolk county councillor and school governor, appeared before Lowestoft mag-istrates on Tuesday. He admitted four charges of depositing litter, was fined £150

and ordered to pay £30 costs. The court was told that he had dumped rubbish deliberately because he was fed up about the Prentice brothers serving youths he had banned from his shop for unruly behaviour. Jane Cox, defend ing, said: "He agrees that somewhat childishly, he returned the litter to where it

had come from.

Film exposes council | Tailback led to farmer's fine

day after trundling along in his combine harvester for nearly two miles at 10mph with a "very long queue" of angry drivers behind him.

When Stephen Leigh, 33, drove past a lay-by instead of pulling in and letting the drivers pass, one took down his registration number, reporting him to police when he finally turned into a field.

Mr Leigh, 33, of Doulting, Somerset, had been travelling between two farms owned by his boss, Reg Keevil. The court clerk. Len Allen, told magistrates in Wells that it

A FARMER was fined for was an "unusual" offence. £120, ordered to pay £300 combine harvester at 11am on the A361 from Frome towards Shepton Mallet. The A361 is a single carriageway separated by a central system. The combine was travelling at

about ten miles an hour. "It would have been dangerous for any of the following traffic to attempt to overtake. He drove for one and a half miles without stopping to allow a very long queue of traffic behind him to overtake. He could have used lay-bys to allow the traffic to get by."

Mr Leigh, who admitted the charge, was yesterday fined

endorsed with three penalty points.

Mr Keevil said afterwards: "Stephen was acting on my instructions. He had to get from A to B on the road. He didn't use the lay-by when he could have done."

An RAC spokesman said: "We have never come across a case like this before. Most farmers are fairly considerate and will pull over a tractor or combine harvester if there is a big tailback. But this ruling sends out a clear message to any inconsiderate drivers of agricultural vehicles."

Kidnapped shipping agent feared he would suffocate

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

A GREEK shipping agent told, a jury yesterday how he feared he would suffocate or die from a heart attack after he was kidnapped at gunpoint and "stuffed" into

the boot of a car. George Fraghistas, 43, broke down briefly in the witness box at the Old Bailey when shown a balactava worn by his one of his captors - who demanded a £5 million ransom — as they launched their kidnap on a Sunday evening in a London car park. Describing his nine-day or-deal of sensory deprivation in a cupboard where he was

scared, you know the feeling." Mr Fraghistas, who spent most of his time in captivity in a mask, his hands and legs bound, and his ears plugged, said: "The worst thing is one moment you get some hope, you think something not disastrous might happen, and the other moment, you think the worst will happen. It takes some days to get to terms with

imprisoned, he said: "I was

completely disorientated,

this and start living with the knowledge of what the bottom line is. I believe it took me three days to get used to this. The fourth day things got

He recounted a chilling conversation with one of his captors: "He asked me if I was going to co-operate and I said I had no other choice. He made it clear that if the police became involved or if they were not successful they would have to kill me by injection. That is painless, they said. He said he would use a gun if that was what I wanted.

The four men who allegedly abducted him told him at one stage that they worked for 'an organisation' which needed his money. They reduced their demand to \$3m (£1.8 million) after several days of ussion, but Mr Fraghistas said he "got the feeling at the time that it was non-negotiable." He was warned that if he did not co-operate or if he accidentally caught sight of his kidnappers, he would have to be killed. Two Greeks — Constantine Korkolis, 39, and Thanassis Zografos. 24 — and two Frenchmen, Jean-Marc Mereu, 36, and Djemel Moussaoui, 33 — have denied kidnapping, false imprison-ment, and blackmail. Mr Fraghistas, who comes

from a wealthy shipping family, said he was kidnapped after parking his car at an NCP car park in Maida Vale, west London. He was driving home from the offices of his company, World Carrier (London) Ltd. One of his worst moments

was when he was allowed a shower four days after his abduction. He said: "I was very scared because, the night before, I overheard the French people saying that at 6pm they would 'do it nicely'. I was carried into the bathroom. They put a tape over my eyes. I was told to kneel. I thought it was the end. But nothing happened."

The case continues on

Boxes at Lord's on sale for £375,000

By BILL FROST

CRICKET lovers marooned without hope at the bottom of the MCC waiting list are being offered private boxes at Lord's - providing that they have £375,000 to spare.

With access to Test matches, one-day finals, university games and the Cricket World Cup, the rent has been set at "competitive rates" of between £40,000 and £65,000 a year. However, the contract is for a five-year term and the tenant must also make a £50,000

interest-free loan to the club. Benefits include up to 16 free tickets for each day the box is used. Lord's is notoriously choosy, but the MCC also needs money to help build the New Grand Stand.

Gavin Brent, of Humberts Leisure, the company in charge of renting, said: "The club will still have the right to reject applications. There is no danger of the wrong sort of person being allowed to rent a box simply because he has money."

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than that. And better cared for: by Swissair hospitality. The catch? You'll have to be an early bird (but not

swissair, world's most refreshing airline.

necessarily a night owi).

Author grabs fame by the love handles

By DALYA ALBERGE ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A LITERARY virgin was happy to accept an award for his first book yesterday, even though it was for writing the worst sexual episode to have been published in a

novel during the past year. David Huggins, 37, follows in good company by winning the Bad Sex in Fiction prize from The Literary Review. Previous recipients include Melvyn Bragg and runners-up included Salman Rushdie and Doris Lessing. The editor of

the Review, Auberon Waugh, established the prize four years ago. He said that novelists, like teenagers, were being pressurised into sex: "It is a national disgrace that nearly every novelist feels he has to include a passage of sexual description, however awkward, perfunctory or embarrassing for all concerned."

Passages from Mr Huggins's The Big Kiss, which he describes as a "dark, urban tale", included: "She grabbed my love handles, her eyes black saucers staring into mine as she hooked a yoga-leg onto my shoulder. We went through a medley

of our favourite positions." The rest is unprintable.

Mr Huggins, an illustrator, said he wrote his story in a weekend. Accepting £250 and a statuette inspired by the theme of the prize, he said: "I am delighted and honoured. I've lived for this day all my life." Commenting on the winning passage, he said: "The book is meant to be a black comedy. I thought it was funny.

There is no sex until halfway through." A spokeswoman for his publishers, Picador, said: "We are thrilled that David Huggins is up there with the greats."

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N.B. The precise wording of the question to be put to the electorate and the conditions necessary to obtain a fair debate and vote should be established by Parliament.

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Trap-shy plague was hooked on fish

How tuna brought about the downfall of Supermouse

A PLAGUE of mice that intested the centre Birmingham were finally defeated by exploiting their weakness for tuna fish.

The mice infested cinemas, restaurants and shops around the Bull Ring, avoiding all the traps and poisons laid for them. Though present in large numbers, even carching a few for study proved difficult.

There was a massive infestation, but they simply didn't go into the traps," said Professor Richard Sibly, of the School of Animal and Microbial Science at Reading University. Rick Humphries, a PhD student working under Professor Sibly, eventually succeeded by tempting them into traps with tuna fish.

"It took him months, and even then we only caught a few," Professor Sibly said. As well as being streetwise, the mice were highly strung. When confined, they got so worked up that they often died of stress. "They were very aggressive to handle and difficult to keep in cages," he told

When the Reading scientists studied the mice, they found that they had unusual food preferences. A group of the Birmingham mice were com-

Berkshire farms. While the Berkshire mice enjoyed canary seed, wheat, and cerealbased laboratory mouse diets, the Birmingham mice would not touch them. Their dislike of these foods was so strong that they would almost rather die than eat them," Professor Sibly said.

They would, however, eat protein-rich foods such as chicken or tuna. Further study showed why. Their digestive systems contained abnormally low levels of an enzyme called beta-amylase, vital for digest-ing starch. They had evidently learnt to avoid carbohydrate because it gave them indigestion. Their guts swelled up to live times the normal size when they were forced to eat it." Professor Sibly said.

Once the pest-control company Rentokii had been told of the preferred diet of the mice, it was able to tackle the infestation. Adrian Mechan. chief biologist in the research and development division of Rentokil, said: "We first tried to deal with these mice in the late 1980s. We got nowhere, but once we started to use the tuna baits, we began to get it under control."

The infestation was elimi-

ic work was completed only that the Birmingham mice had another peculiarity, an extreme reluctance to go into traps. "This is very curious," he says, "because if this behaviour has a genetic basis it must involve at least two gene mutations. I would very much like to do some more work, if I could get support for it". Mr Meehan said he was not

nated by 1994, but the scientif-

aware of any other mice characteristics. "We have had a few reports, but nothing on a comparable scale. At the time, I feared it would spread rapidly, but fortunately it hasn't." Cases of mice infestation reported to local authorities fell from 141,914 in 1993-94 to 130,964 in 1994-95, according to the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (Nick Nuttall writes). Mice infestations overall, however, are up

since 1979 by 10 per cent. The 1949 Prevention of Damage by Pests Act requires householders and companies to report infestation cases to councils. But many firms do not bother and instead call in pest control companies.

Leading article, page 23



"Give me some fish, Hunca Munca!" Scientists might not have known rodents' dietary habits, but Beatrix Potter observed them in The Tale of Two Bad Mice

If all else fails, call in the cat

BY OUR SCIENCE EDITOR

MANY different methods have been tried for catching mice, from the humble to the high-tech. A traditional trap is still effective, says Adrian Meehan, chief biologist in the research division of Rentokil, but only for certain types of mice. He says the ordinary house mouse can be divided into two categories, the trapshy and the trap-prone.

The latter can be caught

not too squeamish. The trapshy type needs poison but the traditional blood-thinning Warfarin is no longer effective as mice have developed resistance to it. However. improved versions are available that still work. At the other extreme is the

Mouse Alert, developed by Rentokil, which uses infra-red beams to detect the mouse entering the trap, then closes puter, which dials a telephone number to alert staff to remove the mouse from the premises. No bait is needed for this trap as research has shown that mice like to scurry close to walls, sensing their position with their whiskers. As long as the box is left close to the wall the mouse will go in — unless, that is, it is of the

Birmingham strain. However, there is a tried and trusted method if sophis-

Catholics warned against infection from holy water ..

HOLY WATER from religious could delay the healing proshrines, revered for centuries as having healing powers, could do more harm than good, believers are warned today in the Catholic Herald. The anointing of open sores,

intravenous drips and wounds has been a common practice for relatives of the sick in hospitals. Some people drink the water. However, a study of holy water cultures, drawn from shrines such as Lourdes and Walsingham, has shown that, owing to germs on peoing the water, it often becomes breeding ground for

infection. Some hospitals have ordered nurses to ban such use of holy water on their wards and to persuade visitors to make do with a sign of the Cross on the forehead or some other intact section of skin. Nurses at Whiston Hospital, on Merseyside, and the Royal Preston Hospital in Lancashire now sterilise holy water brought to their wards and return it within the hour.

Linda Parsons, an infection control nurse at the Whiston, worked on the cultures with a microbiologist, Karen Allen. Their findings are published today in the Catholic Herald. Mrs Parsons said: "We cultured holy water and found it was heavily contaminated with a lot of quite serious pathogens, organisms capable of causing disease and infection. We were quite concerned."

cess and cause stomach upset or worse. Mrs Parsons said that it was possible that such premature death in the past. It could kill a susceptible patient," she said.

People put holy water into eyes, their mouths and under bandages. It isn't the water itself that is the problem but the way people collect it. contaminating it with very nasty germs with their hands and the bottles they use.

The nurses' safety-first policy is unlikely to cause protest within the Roman Catholic Church. The mainstream Church has always considered a blessing with holy water as symbolic rather than physical. Father Paul Addison, a friar of the Order of the Servants of Mary, and a priest with 30 years' experience, said that straying from such "common sense" could reduce the blessing to superstition or ritualistic magic. Such "sacra-mentals" were "reminders of a spiritual blessing and should not be taken literally. They are

symbols." One priest said: "If someone has major burns, you don't pour oil on them, but the person can still have God's

Martin Foster, assistant secretary of the Liturgy Office, an expert on the subject, said that holy water from shrines should not be confused with water blessed by the Church

Turtles shake off satellite scientists

THE secret and ancient world of the shy tuitle is defying attempts to explore it with satellite technology. Transmitters tethered to leatherback turtles setting out

across the Pacific from Costa Rica have discovered that each follows the same narrow corrisignals stop before the final destination is discovered. Although all the transmitters were supposed to last for a year, one survived a mere three days and the longest for

A team of American scientists attached the transmitters to eight furties, two each season for the four years between 1992 and 1995. It proved difficult to make the transmitters stick to the shells, so they were attached instead by a short tether, the turtles pulling them along behind

The movement was followed by satellite tracking, the areas.

Legal threat to stem water leaks

BY NICK NUTTALL

turtles set off from the same SEVERAL big water combeach after they had laid their eggs at a nesting site near ·Playa Grande, and all headed in the same direction, roughly towards the Galapagos Islands. Two who set off 13 days apart in 1992 were no more practices. The turde that was practiced for longest covered 2,780 knometres in 87 days before the signal failed.

The team, led by Dr Ste-phen Morreale of Cornell University, do not know how the turtles navigate so precise a course, although possible explanations include currents, magnetic cues, or the avail-ability of food. The scientists say that in the

team reports in Nature. All the

effort to conserve the turtle, an endangered species, migratory routes should be safeguarded, together with nesting sites and feeding

panies were accused by the industry regulator yesterday of doing too little to plug leaks. Ian Byatt, Director-General of Water Services, said that legally binding targets would be introduced in April 1998 untary targets for leak reduction. He named Thames, Welsh, North West, Severn Trent, South West and Yorkshire as failing to make adequate progress in tackling leaky pipes after the targets were

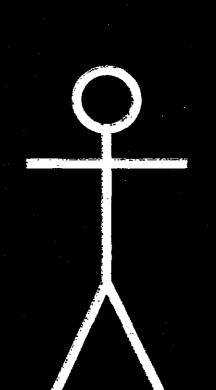
agreed earlier this year. Thames Water received the greatest criticism. Its total leakage has risen rather than declined since the last figures, to 38.6 per cent. A spokesman said that the rise was due to more accurate estimates of the amount being lost rather than more leaks.

Welsh Water's leakage was 37.9 per cent and North West's 33.5 per cent.

ticated alternatives fail: the the door behind it. A signal is and killed in ordinary traps, The resulting infections for use in services. housebold cat. automatically sent to a com-UP TO **GUARANTEED** PLUS, FOR EARLY INVESTORS, A PREMIUM RATE OF 8% GROSS P.A. UNTIL 1.2.97. Announcing the launch of the ABBEY NATIONAL GUARANTEED GROWTH BOND. Simply invest a minimum of £10,000 over a 3 or 5 year period and receive a guaranteed return of up to 140%. The only catch is that you have to hurry, this offer is only available for a limited time. So, to ensure that you don't miss out, call into your nearest branch, or call Abbey National Direct free and quote reference A452A/1 0800 100 801



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Tunnel may reopen for passengers next week

FROM BEN MACINTYRE

CAR and passenger services through the Channel Tunnel may restart next week if safety regulators give permission. Eurotunnel said yesterday.

Patrick Ponsolle, the company's French co-president, said that additional security plans had been presented to the Channel Tunnel Safety Authority, ensuring the highest safety standards if services

The plans include keeping two fire engines and an ambulance on permanent standby in the service tunnel and two emergency trains with full crews at each end, able to reach the middle of the tunnel

passenger services unless we were totally confident about the safety of human life, which is our absolute priority. The tunnel is as safe as - if not safer than - any other method of travelling across the Chan-

nel." M Ponsolle said. The tunnel was closed after a fire on a freight train ten days ago. M Ponsolle said he hoped that the safety authority would allow passenger and car trains to resume "in the first days of next week". He added, however, that a full service would "have to wait until the necessary repairs are completed. Some freight shipments restarted last week.

Eurotunnel proposes to have three passenger trains a

ing to six in each direction. Before the fire there were 12 passenger services daily in each direction.

Trains will be able to avoid the fire-damaged section of tunnel by moving to the other parallel tunnel at a crossover point. It is estimated that the repairs will take up to five months and cost up to

The Anglo-French safety authority is expected to rule on whether to permit the resumption of passenger traffic in the next few days.

M Ponsolle said that the

desire for a speedy resumption of services was not a result of financial pressure. Euro-tunnel's net losses resulting day running in each direction from the fire, estimated at up

the company's insurers, as would any compensation claims, he said. "The closure has caused massive disruption tunnel has become an essential service and we hope to reinstate it as quickly as possible in the public interest." A fire broke out in the tunnel yesterday at the same spot as last week's blaze. It is believed to have been started when sparks from welding work ignited material on the

in the first fire. The fire was understood to have been put out by Eurotunnel staff already at the scene. "It was very minor and was put out almost immediately," Kent police said.

Errant clergy to be examined in secret

BY RUTH GLEDHILL RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Church of England last night agreed to abolish its 900year-old consistory courts and to bring in a less cumbersome system for disciplining errant

clergy. While consistory courts will continue to hear the cases of churches seeking permission to alter their buildings, any cleric accused of adultery or other conduct considered "unbecoming" will in future appear before closed tribunals.

The tribunals will make it less costly and less timeconsuming to bring clergy to justice. The General Synod agreed to set up disciplinary tribunals to examine clergy behind closed doors, although agreeing that findings should be made public.

The Church wants to avoid a repetition of trials such as that last summer of the Dean of Lincoln, Dr Brandon Jackson, who was acquitted of misconduct with a cathedral verger after a lengthy and coln. Canon Alan Hawker,

An Anglican guide, Church and State, which says that the law banning monarchs from marrying Roman Catholics is "outdated and inappropriate" to most people, was reis-sued yesterday, just days before the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, is due to visit the Pope in Rome in an attempt to bring the Catholic and Anglican Churches closer together.

The Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure of 1963, under which accused clergy were tried, had been used only three times, and was difficult to understand and slow. Rather than invoke this measure, there is ample evidence that bishops prefer to grit their teeth and tolerate indisci-

chairman of the working party that drew up the proposals. said: "The existing disciplinary procedures in our Church of England are seriously unsatisfactory."

pline," said Canon Hawker.

Cathedrals lose right to self-rule

BY OUR RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

FAR-REACHING changes to the management of England's 42 cathedrals were agreed yesterday when the General Synod approved proposals to end their traditional

autonomy. The dean and residentiary canons, or chapter, will no longer be solely responsible for governing the cathedral. They will be joined by two to five other members, and the chapter will be answerable to

a general council. The chairman of the council, an advisory body, will be appointed by the diocesan bishop. The bishop will retain his right to conduct "visita-

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tions" or incuiries into cathedral affairs. He will still not have the power to sack cathedral clergy, who are protected by their traditional freehold, or right to a job for life.

The changes are the result of a commission chaired by Lady Howe of Aberavon, which was requested by the cathedrals after a series of controversies, including conflict between the Dean and Sub-dean of Lincoln Cathedral.

Professor David McClean. of Sheffield, who helped to draw up the reforms, said they should be seen as something to last, perhaps for centuries. "We are not responding to the current difficulties in a single cathedral, though I hope that those difficulties would be much less likely to occur in the more open and accountable

system this measure seeks." Roger Atkinson, a lay synod member and the Lincoln City Coroner, said the proposals did not go far enough. "I sometimes feel it [Lincoln] is only going to be resolved when the protagonists become subject to my jurisdiction as Coroner," he said.

He said the aim of holding tribunals in secret was not to avoid washing the Church's dirty linen in public, but was to ensure a calm and fair hearing.

"Transparency must not be confused with observability." he said. "A cleric must be deemed innocent until guilt is responsibly established," he

Sir John Owen, a High Court judge and Dean of the Arches, the Church's two courts of appeal, said: "Adultery by an accountant engineer or newspaper magnate does not attract attention. But let it be a Member of Parliament, let it be a doctor, let it be a cleric and we see the very worst of press prurience.

He said that Anglican disciplinary procedures were the subject of mockery. That is not what happens in other churches. That is not what happens with other profes-

John Porter, of Hull, said: "In large organisations, including the Church of England, there is a long history of complaints being brushed aside."

But the Right Rev Alec Graham, the Bishop of Newcastle, gave warning against the proposals. "Parishes and the Church at large need to be effectively protected and deliv-ered from some few members of the clergy," he said. "Some of the clergy need to be protected against their parish-

He said that the tribunal system might open the door for some parishioners to persecute their clergy. "From time to time, parishioners have it in for their clergy. It does happen that members of a congregation get their knives into clergy and twist them. On occasions they can be implacable and relentless in pursuit. On such occasions, bishops try to pro-

tect their clergy." However, a last-minute amendment proposed by the Rev Michael Vasey, a lecturer at St John's theological college. Durham, gave bishops the power to block hearings that they considered to be inappropriate or malicious.

Giving warning of the risk that campaigns could be started against individuals. Mr Vasey said: "Without my amendment, it would allow someone with a computer to take to law every gay priest who has a partner and every evangelical who departs from the lectionary."

Leading article, page 23

40 arrested in hunt for duty cheats

Customs officers raided 100 addresses across England yes-terday in a crackdown on suspected fraud on alcohol and tobacco duty thought to be worth £65 million.

More than 40 people were arrested and supplies were seized as the operation went ahead in Yorkshire, Cheshire, Essex, Suffolk, Hertfordshire, Hereford, the Midlands, northwest London and Dorset. Investigators also examined businesses in France.

Boys charged

Two 14-year-old boys from Hook, Hampshire, have been charged with criminal damage endangering life after Simon Willmott, 22, was seriously injured when a piece of concrete fell on to his car from a bridge over the M3.

Three remanded

Three men arrested after a police released an alleged kidnap victim from a botel room in north London appeared before Liverpool magistrates on blackmail charges. They were remanded in custo-dy until December 4.

Roadside surgery

A doctor performed a two-hour roadside operation to remove two 3ft wooden gateposts imbeded in a driver's thighs. Douglas Bell, 52, had lost control of his car and crashed through a fence at Welford, Berkshire.

Dr Zhivago sale

The love letters from Boris. Pasternak to the woman who inspired him to write Dr Zhivago have failed to sell at auction. The letters to his mistress, Olga Ivinskaja, were expected to fetch

Pumping icon

A 1923 petrol pump at Turnastone, Worcestershire, said to be the oldest still working in Britain, has won a reprieve after a 1,000-name petition helped to persuade the Envi-ronment Department that it did not breach safety laws.

Post haste

December II is the last posting day for letters to Santa Claus, the Royal Mail said. They should be stamped, addressed to Santa Claus, Reindeerland, SAN TAL, and include the sender's name and address for a reply.



phones to the same Talk Plan. There'll only be one connection and one monthly charge. You will share one bill, but have two

itemised listings of usage...

You can now connect two Orange

Ambulance

chief uses

staff to

sell book

Five uniformed senior officers from the North Yorkshire NHS Ambulance Trust are calling at booksellers in the county seeking orders for Accidents Will Happen, by Murray Naylor, the trust chairman. None of the £3.95 price will go to the trust. Mr Navlor, 58, describes in

the paperback the experiences of paramedics called to emergencies throughout North Yorkshire since 1990. Nigel Metcalfe, the trust spokes-man, said: "We see it as a promotional tool for the service," He said that while fout and about on their normal duties" the officers were asked to go into shops to sell the books, if they had time. The trust is the subject of an

independent inquiry after the Channel 4 programme Disrwo people had died as a result of equipment failures or ambulances getting lost. Other allegations included failure to train paramedics adequately. The trust has rejected the claims, except that of poor training, and has complained to the Broadcasting Com-

cers to promote the book "in no way whatsoever interfered in their duty of saving lives or managing their groups".



THE ORIGINAL MR BRITPOP Robert Crampton meets Cliff Richard in the Magazine



HAVING A BALL Quentin Letts on the Diana effect at America's party of the year in

Weekend **PLUS**

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The Directory

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TV reopens Hillsborough dispute

New witness claims footage on video contradicted police

FAMILIES of the 96 football supporters who died at Hillsborough are to seek legal advice after seeing the preview of a drama-documentary which claims to have unearthed new evidence about

The fans were crushed in pens on the terraces at Sheffield Wednesday's ground when Liverpool met Nottingham Forest for the FA Cup semi-final in April 1989. Granada Television, the maker of Hillsborough, said yesterday that a sworn affidavit from a "new witness" conflicted with police accounts.

Roger Houldsworth, a video technician on duty at the ground, claims that he saw images from a camera trained on the stands where Liverpool supporters were crushed to death. It showed me views which ought to have been available to officers in the police control box," he said. "It was obvious to me that the pens were already full when they decided to let another 2,000 people in. I can't understand why the police couldn't

see the same thing." Mr. Houldsworth's account features in the Granada programme, written by Jimmy McGovern, the creator of Cracker. It will be broadcast on ITV a week today.

TWO out of three NHS

hospitals are putting lives at

risk by having no operating

theatre set aside for dealing

with emergencies during the

The lack of facilities for

emergency surgery means seriously ill patients have to

they are more likely to be becaused on by junior staff, the report into deaths after

surgery says.
In addition, too many elder-

ly patients in no condition for

operations are dying after

undergoing surgery for bro-

ken hips when it would be

kinder to give them pain-killing drugs and to allow nature to take its course, the

The report, the most com-

prehensive study of the risks

of surgery, is based on 20,000

deaths occurring within 30

days of an operation from

April 1993 to March 1994 that

day, a report has shown.

gate leading to the already overcrowded central pens dis-appeared before the subsequent damning inquiry report by Lord Justice Taylor and the nquest on the victims. Police told the 80-day hearing, which returned a verdict of accidental death, that the camera was not working properly and was little used on the day. However, Mr Houldsworth said that he had repaired the fault that morning. "Every-

decision was made to open a

thing was working perfectly. It had to be before a major semifinal." he said in a statement yesterday. Mr Houldsworth, who was interviewed by investigating officers at the time, said that he was surprised not to be called to give evidence at either Lord Justice Taylor's

inquiry or the inquest. Pamilies of the victims, furious that the inquest did not return a verdict of manslaughter, described the new evidence as "a breakthrough". Trevor Hicks, chairman of the Hillsborough Families Support Group, who lost his two teenage daughters, Victoria and Sarah, in the tragedy, said: "We will be looking at this with our lawyers and what we do about it will depend on the advice we

receive. It's to the credit of the

Restrictions on emergency

surgery 'put lives at risk'

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

were notified to the National

Confidential Inquiry into

Professor John Blandy

chairman of the inquiry, said

the number of deaths must be

balanced against the 3.5 mil-

lion operations performed each year. The vast majority occurred in elderly nations.

already desperately ill. The overall incessage is that sur-

gery is safe and getting safer.

able improvement since we

started these reports in 1987."

mained short of emergency

operating theatres, recovery

rooms, and high dependency

units that are essential to

guarantee patient safety. Ron

Hoile, of the Royal College of

Surgeons, a co-ordinator of the inquiry, said: "Most NHS

trusts are using their facilities

to the full for elective mon-

urgenti work. Apart from dire

emergencies, which will al-

here has been a quite notice-

However, hospitals re-

Perioperative Deaths.



The cast of Hillsborough. The programme recreates missing footage from a video camera trained on the stands

research team that this evi-

dence has emerged." Lord Justice Taylor said in his report that police who opened a gate to relieve crowd pressure outside the ground just before the match failed to block off a tunnel — a move which would have kept fans from the crowded central pens. "it was a blunder of the first magnitude," he said, adding that the police "froze" in

ways be made room for, a lot

of emergency cases are kept

tals have an emergency oper-ating theatre staffed round

the clock. An empty theatre is

not an idle theatre, it is to treat

emergencies as they arise."

More than 400 of the cas

analysed involved elderly

people with a broken thigh-

bone, a condition that is

increasing as the population

ages. The report cites ten cases

in which its advisers "doubted

the wisdom of the decision to

operate". In every case the

patient died immediately or

There is an unwritten

possibly unsubstantiated,

doctrine that every patient

should be operated upon to

achieve pain relief and ease

mursing care. This deserves tp

be reconsidered in the light of

modern methods of pain re-

lief," the report says.

within a few days.

"We recommend all hospi-

waiting until evening.

was prosecuted or disciplined over the disaster. Chief Superintendent David Duckenfield, who was in charge at the ground on the day, retired on medical grounds. This ended disciplinary proceedings

South Yorkshire Police and the Coroner's Office concerned declined to participate gramme. A police spokeswoman said that there would be no

comment on Hillsborough until the programme had been broadcast. We take the view that this is just opening up old wounds and upsetting the families." Ian McBride, one of the

programme's executive producers, denied that it blurred the line between drama and documentary formats. "No one would say that officers seeing what was happening in the pens would then wilfully

open up a gate and allow 2,000 people to stream into the ground. However, I do think that police on the day had become preoccupied with crowd problems outside the ground. I think this [Mr Houldsworth's account is a piece of evidence which, if it had been placed before the inquest jury, might well have had an impact on their deliberations and produced a different verdict.

plaints Commission. Mr Taylor said using offi-

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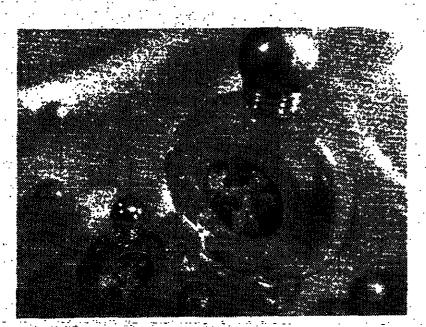
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SCENTS OF WONDER.



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The Perfumery, Ground Floor

INTEREST FREE OPTION

Killer nurse's hospital pays parents £500,000

By Russell Jenkins

FAMILIES of the victims of the child murderer Beverly Allitt have agreed a total compensation of £500,000 for their stress in a ground-breaking legal deal.

The award, made as compensation for post-traumatic stress disorder, is being viewed by the families as the first of its kind because they were not present when the crimes were perpetrated. It was agreed out of court between Lincolnshire Health Authority, which employed Allin as a nurse, and the parents' solicitor.

Allitt. Z7. was convicted three and half years ago and is serving 13 life sentences in Rampton top-security hospital. Nottinghamshire, for murdering four children and injuring nine others at Grantham and Kesteven General Hospital.

Her youngest victim was only eight weeks old. The families claimed compensation for the nightmares and flashbacks they suffered as a result of the anguish caused by Allitt's crimes.

The money will be divided

Allitt: murdered four ed children and hurt nine

between the 12 families of the 13 children who were killed or injured by the nurse who was dubbed, at the time of her conviction at Nottingham Crown Court, the "Angel of Death". The health authority, which was once accused by the parents of emotional blackmail, originally argued that the law did not allow parents compensation for the psychiat-

close by when the crimes took place.

The settlement was reached

ric effects unless they were



under the threat of long and expensive court proceedings. The authority had argued that court claims would raise difficult points of law and "require a great deal of time and expense, much of which will

be from the public purse".

The parents refused to accept the authority's suggestions on how to share out the total, which was originally offered in May. Under the new terms, it is left to the families to decide.

Kevin Holder, Lincolnshire Health Authority's director of corporate services, said yesterday: "We recognise that no amount of money will remove the anguish and stress suffered by the families. But these settlements will at least negate the need to relive the events during legal proceedings. We hope the conclusion of this chapter in the tragic events of five years ago will go some way to allowing the families to put the events, as best they can, behind them."

Paul Balen, the solicitor who negotiated the settlement, refused to disclose how the £500,000 would be divided among the families or the highest and lowest figures that

would be allocated. "It is an entirely confidential settlement," said Mr Balen, of the Nottingham firm Freeth Cartwright Hunt Dickins.

"Not even the parents know what others have received. They have only been told of the figure they are to receive as individuals. The money has been divided strictly according to the quality of medical evidence that records the level of stress they have been through."

through."

He said it was a "ground-breaking settlement" which leaves the parents with some form of recompense and ends five years of litigation. "The settlement will avoid any more unnecessary stress for them. Their feelings today are ones of relief." The families had been prepared to take their cases to the House of Lords and to create new faw if necessary to gain compensation for their suffering, he added.

Allin's surviving victims and the estates of the children she murdered have received interim payments and "substantial settlements" after bringing their own compensation claims.



Blood, Sweat and Tears is Margaret Thatcher's favourite portrait of Churchill

Churchill portrait sold for £150,000

By JOHN SHAW

ONE of the few portraits of Churchill painted during the war was sold for £150.000 at Sotheby's in London yesterday. The amount was double the estimate.

The picture. known as Blood, Sweat and Tears after Churchill's famous speech at the time of Dunkirk, had hung in 10 Downing Street since Margaret Thatcher was elected in 1979. It was her favourite portrait of him.

favourite portrait of him.

The portrait dated 1943, was sold on behalf of the St Stephen's Constitutional Club, which commissioned it from Frank O. Salisbury (1874-1962). He studied the wartime leader in the House of Lords, where MPs sat after their chamber was destroyed in an air raid in May 1941.

in an air raid in May 1941.

It went to a private buyer from abroad. The club, whose membership includes a number of MPs, will use the money to refurbish its premises in Westminster. David Bright, the chairman, said that the club was sad to be losing one of its most treasured possessions.

Wallflowers come out of the kitchen

By JOANNA BALE

THE traditional housewife is almost extinct, according to a survey which reveals that nearly nine out of ten women do not think the term describes them.

National Opinion Polls for Grey, the London advertising agency, spoke to 220 women aged 15 to 45. It also found that the days of the aspiring Superwoman, with the em-

The shrinking violet has also withered, with 90 per cent of women saying that it was acceptable to make the first move towards a sexual relationship if they were attracted to a man. But men have become less important to women, with only 30 per cent saying that having a man in their lives was "very important", and only 20 per cent regarding marriage as "important". More women (32 per cent) dreamt of having someone to help them with domestic chores than about meeting their dream man (28 per cent).

The survey, carried out by

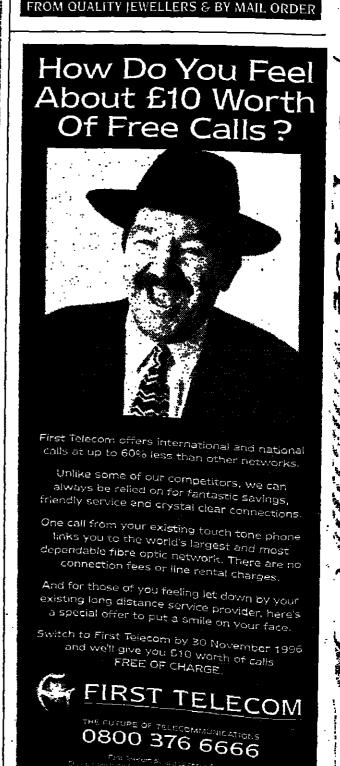
Grey, the London advertising agency, spoke to 220 women aged 15 to 45. It also found that the days of the aspiring Superwoman, with the emphasis on striving for perfection in both career and family life, were over.

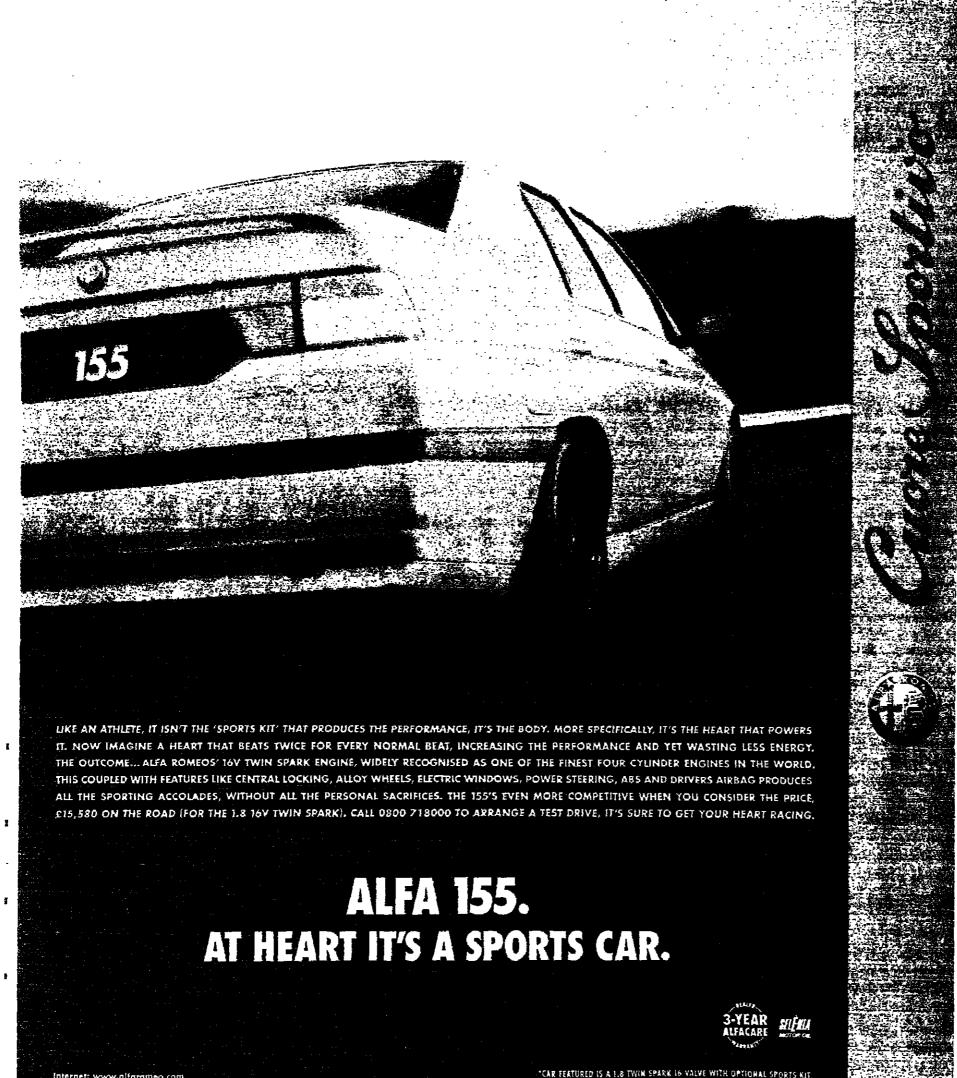
Fewer women (42 per cent) dreamt of losing weight than about having enough time to do all than the control of the contro

do all they things they wanted (55 per cent), having a ward-robe full of beautiful clothes (62 per cent), or of travelling more frequently (57 per cent). The top role model was Mother Teresa, followed by Tina Turner. Oprah Winfrey.

Mother Teresa, followed by Tina Turner, Oprah Winfrey, Joanna Lumley and Dawn French. Bottom of the list were Pameia Anderson, Paula Yates, Madonna and Baroness Thatcher.







THE TIMES THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28 1996

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Church Royals under fire

Sold in for letting young

El50,00 Dringe shoot stag Prince shoot stag

CAMPAIGNERS against field sports reacted swiftly esterday to the news that Prince William had shot his first stag at the age of 14.

The Prince, accompanied by his father, the Prince of Wales. and his younger brother, Prince Harry, made the kill on the Balmoral estate last month shortly before the legal end of the stag-shooting season on October 20. St James's Palace declined to be drawn into the debate yesterday, but it is understood that the young Prince was spared the ritual of having his face smeared with the blood of his first kill.

Deer-culling is an essential element of estate management in the Scottish Highlands, which has suffered from an overpopulation of the species since the demise of its natural predator, the wolf. But the Royal Family's continuing affection for country sports involving guns still enrages

opponents of field sports.

Kevin Saunders, of the League Against Cruel Sports, said that his organisation accepted the need for properly managed deer-culling: "Deer should be shot by a marksman using a high-powered rifle, not by a 14-year-old after trophies. We despair of the Royal Family, who exhibit the morals of brutalitarians and set a dreadful example at a time when society is moving away from the gun culture. The league says that the Highlands suffer from mismanagement of the deer population, with trophy-

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Prince William: made his first kill last month

seeking sportsmen shooting only stags for their antiers and

However, Janet George, spokeswoman for the British Fields Sports Society, said that a 14-year-old would not be allowed to shoot a stag without great preparation: "He had a qualified professional stalker with him, he has had a great deal of practice in shooting and at his age he will have taken it far more seriously than an older teenager, who would probably have done it

only for the bangs and thrills." The society approves of sportsmen culling deer: Without the amateur sportsman, no one could afford to manage deer herds properly. Professional stalkers are expensive: the sportsman does much of the work free of charge. It is in no way careless killing. The amateur takes great pride in the clean kill."

Stalking experts are divided on whether too many stags are hinds, but they agree that the culling of female deer, permitted between mid-October and mid-February, often offers a poor yield, because bad wea-ther keeps stalkers off the Prince William, like his

father, has been used to a gun since the age of eight, accompanying his family on pheas-ant shoots at Sandringham in continuation of a long family tradition that began with Edward VII. Stag-shooting at Balmoral was much favoured by Prince Albert and fully endorsed by Queen Victoria. The royal tradition of deerhunting extends through William the Conqueror to the Saxon kings.

The Prince of Wales is an unashamed champion of field sports. Since his separation from Diana, Princess of Wales who does not share his views — he has made sure that their two children have had regular hunting and shooting holidays at Balmoral.



Colin Edwards, of Ecclesfield, Yorkshire, greets Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother at the Royal Smithfield Show in Earls Court, west London, yesterday. The Queen Mother is president of the show and a regular visitor. She was welcomed with applause and cheers as she toured, amid tight security, with the

Queen Mother's walkabout

Duchess of Devonshire, who is vicepresident. At 96, the Queen Mother needed to lean on a walking stick, but seemed to be in good health. One of her own herd of Aberdeen Angus cattle -- a heifer named Castle of Mey

Evebright 28th - won second prize in its class. After inspecting the winning cattle, the Queen Mother had a lunch of British beef. A show spokesman said: "Her Majesty thoroughly enjoyed her visit and her lunch - which

was beef from the Duke of Buccleuch's estates." Earlier this year, she handed over her home and her 2,000-acre private estate at the Castle of Mey, on the far north coast of Scotland, and its prize- winning Aberdeen Angus herd to a charitable trust to help to ensure the future of a highly successful venture into cattle breeding.

Aspinall keepers let back into tiger pens

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE 200 owner John Aspinall and Languidge, had argued in won a High Court battle yesterday for the right to let his keepers enter the enclosures of freely roaming tigers. Canterbury City Council failed to obtain a ruling to en-sure, in the interests of safety,

at Howletts, Kent, only with tigers that were "very young or immobilised". The council had challenged an industrial tribunal decision in January to lift the council's ban on the practice, encouraged by Mr Aspinall, of allowing animals ban followed the death of a keeper, Trevor Smith, in 1994 after he was bitten by a tiger while deaning its enclosure. He was the third Aspinall keeper to be killed by tigers. Canterbury's senior envi-

court that the bonding practice was a breach of the provisions of the 1974 Health and Safety at Work Act and a European Union directive. He contended that there was no need for employees to be put at risk.

terday that it was inconceivable that the directive or the Art can have intended to putlaw activities merely on the basis that they were dangerous". He added: "The Act is not seeking to legislate as to what work could or could not be performed, but is concerned with the manner of its doing." He held that bonding could not be achieved unless

the practice was followed. The council was refused leave to appeal, but might ask the Court of Appeal to considronmental health officer, Rich-er the case.



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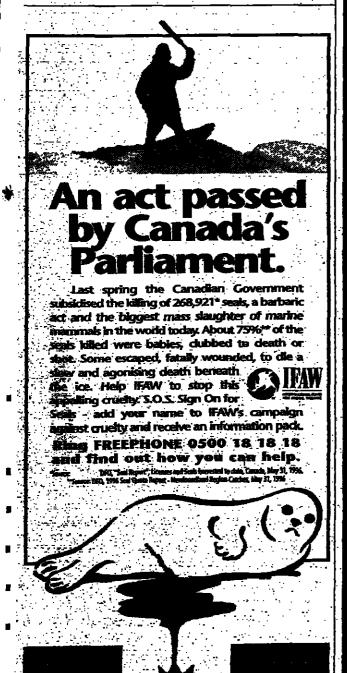




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Spending squeeze to put council tax up by 6 per cent

COUNCIL taxes are likely to billion, a 1.5 per cent rise. This total figure, £45.66 billion, rise by at least 6 per cent next compared to £35.23 billion for represented a huge proportion rise by at least 6 per cent next year after an even tighter squeeze on local government

spending than last year.

Town hall leaders have given warning of widespread cuts in services. They had asked John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, for an extra £2.3 billion to maintain services at their present level. but for the third year running he obtained less than half that amount, £1.1 billion.

Mr Gummer announced that total council spending could rise by only 2.5 per cent or £45.6 billion, compared with a rise of 3.2 per cent this year. He also disclosed that government grants towards this would be only £37.7

Band D dwellings in England and Wales this year is

£636.60. The expected 6 per

cent rise would add £38.20

to this, bringing the bill to

In England average

council taxes are highest in

the North West, at £748.36 for a Band D dwelling,

and lowest in East Anglia,

at £593.13. London. the

South East and South

West are all below the

this year, which represented a 2.8 per cent rise.

The Government's own figures in its Budget Red Book suggest that council taxes will rise by S per cent, although officials said this figure was over-pessimistic. Last year the same figure was calculated at 7 per cent although actual rises averaged 6 per cent.

In a statement on the settle ment in the Commons Mr Gummer insisted that he could not confirm any figures. because the actual rates would be set by each local authority, most of which were now under Labour or Liberal Democrat

Yorkshire are all above it.

In Wales the average is

Liverpool has the highest

Band D council tax at

£1,006.46. The lowest is

The London Borough of

Southwark put up council

tax by 28 per cent this year,

the largest rise of any

authority in charge of all

HIGHEST AND LOWEST

£461.58.

He also emphasised that the

representing three local authority associations, said that the pursuit for efficiency was destroying services. The 2.5 per cent settlement would

services.

Councils are already spending £2.5 billion more this year than the Government expects them to spend next. They are filling the gap by drawing on reserves but Sir Jeremy said these were not inexhaustible and in some authorities were reaching dangerously low

of government spending and

councils should be able to

make efficiency savings. "It would be absurd to imagine

that within this large total

there is room for greater

"I make no apology for the fact

that we have pursued such

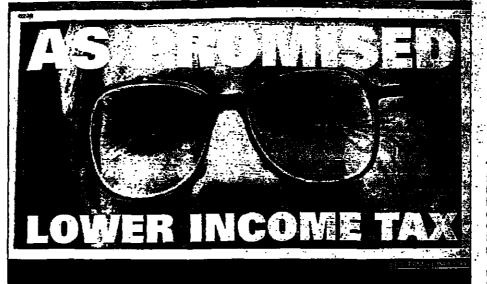
efficiencies vigorously."

But Sir Jeremy Beecham.

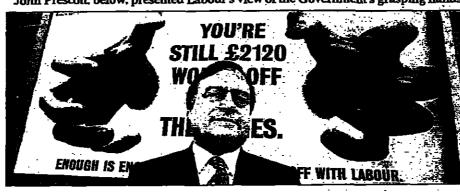
make it impossible to protect

The Government has earmarked an extra £630 million of the money authorities can spend on education, which is being increased by 3.6 per cent this year. Education authorities will be allowed to increase their budget above capping levels provided the money they spend goes on schools.

Authorities say they are already spending £41 more per child on education than



Post-haste: party bosses wasted no time in putting their Budget message on the streets. The Tories invited voters to make eye contact with honest John Major, while John Prescott, below, presented Labour's view of the Government's grasping hands



the government allows and argue that, far from being an increase, the £630 million represents a £73 million cut on present education budgets.

Shire district authorities

will be hit hardest by the settlement since they do not provide education services and will therefore receive no extra money for this. London boroughs will be given the highest average increase, which means they can not only spend more but will be able to increase council tax by higher amounts than elsewhere in the

Mr Gummer said that the increase represented a "balanced and reasonable response" to the conflict between council demands for more money and the need to control

But Mr Dobson said that the average council tax bill would rise by 6 per cent representing a £40 increase per household. "Local people will once again be forced to pay more and get less." He

claimed that that taxpayers would be forced to pay an extra £4 billion over the next three years — the equivalent of E200 for each family.

Mr Gummer said that he

had listened to numerous rep-resentations from local gov-ernment associations and had weighed the interests of local citizens in terms of both the services they had a right to expect and the taxes they had

Rise will 'wipe out. Chancellor's lp Budget offering'

By Ian Murray, community correspondent

ncome tax will be no more than enough to cover the rise in council tax and service charges, Sir Jeremy Beecham, inated Local Government As-

sociation, said yesterday. He said the £1.1 billion extra councils are to be allowed to spend was less than half the £2.3 billion needed to maintain services at present levels. Although he expected authorities would be able to make efficiency savings of £400 million in the year ahead, there was no way of squaring the circle between income and

expenditure.
The Government is guilty of sleight of hand, particularly in education," he said. "We are told we are getting an extra £630 million for education but that isn't enough to cope with the increase in the school population that is already in the pipeline and makes no allowance at all for a teachers' pay increase, which is historically always above the level of

Marion Williams of the National Confederation of Parent-Teacher Associations said that the settlement meant that parents were increasingly having to raise money to fund everything from teachers' salaries to playgrounds. The £50 million grant for school buildings was nothing against the £3.2 billion needed

cluding central government services such as the National Criminal Intelligence Service and expenditure on capital

THE Chancellor's 1p cut in schools with outside loos and at this moment 750,000 children are being taught in temporary buildings which are freezing in winter and boiling hot in summer," she said. "We know local authorities are squeezing all the other services for the sake of education, but there still isn't enough money to meet our

> Katrina Webster of Age Concern said the settlement meant that the 20 million ensioners who relied on local authority services would progressively find care being cut. "If we don't invest today, it is going to be bleak for the old people of the tomorrow, and that includes the politicians." she said.

☐ Police force budgets will rise by £247 million next year with every force in England and Wales receiving at least a 2 per cent increase, according to figures issued yesterday. The Home Office said that no force would receive less than a 2 per cent increase. In total the police budget would rise by .7 per cent.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, said the extra money showed the Government's commitment to law and order. He said that spending on the police, inprojects such as buildings, would rise from £7.1 billion to £7.3 billion.

Complicated business of filling town hall coffers

By IAN MURRAY

COUNCIL finances are arcane and full of jargon, but they boil down to the fact that the Government pays about 80 per cent of town hall bills. Local authorities find the rest by raising council tax, digging into their reserves or charging for services.

In every Budget the Governg ment announces the amount at councils are expected to spend. This is known as Total Standard Spending (TSS) and represents a national cap on town hall budgets.

The money the Government pays to the councils is called Aggregate External Finance (AEF) and is made up of three elements: the Revenue Support Grant (RSG), money taken from non-domestic rates, and special funds for particular services such as nursery vouchers or community care.

This year the TSS has been increased from £44.53 billion to £45.66 billion, with the AEF

part of this up from 635.23 billion to 635.77 billion. Although the total is 2.5 per cent more than last year the Goverroment is prepared to increase its share by only 1.5 per cent. Councils are being allowed to spend £13 billion extra, but the Government will give them only £530 million towards that. The rest

must come from council tax. The difference between TSS and AEF will increase item. tual amount will vary enor-mously between different authorities. Some will be able to subsidise the increase from reserves. Others will cut services or increase charges to hold down costs.

Councils are already spend ing £47 billion this financial year, which is £2.5 billion over the TSS. They are doing this largely by eating into reserves and expect to have to do the same next year. This means

that the true level of local

There's no disguising

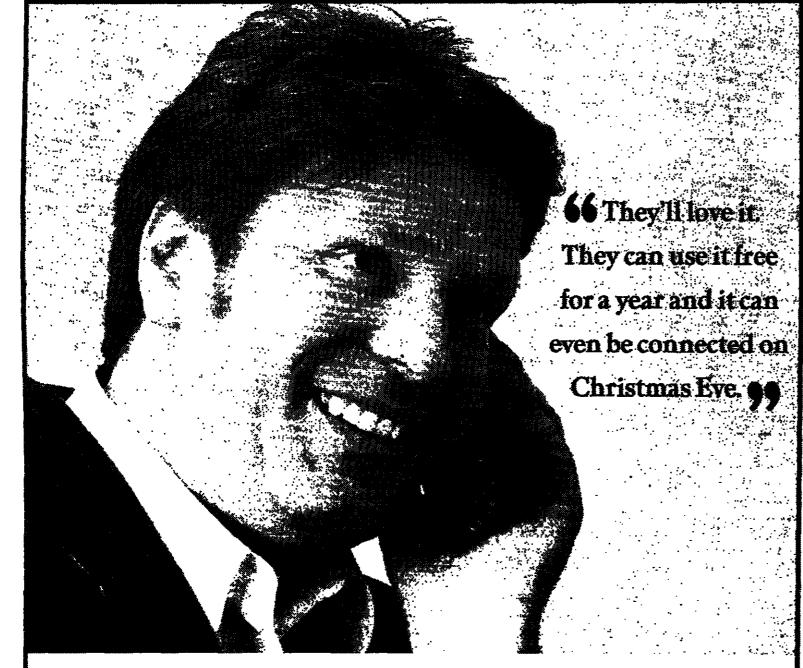
problem toenails

authority spending in 1997-98 will be almost £50 billion. Unless they use reserve authorities must increase their

budget according to levels Department. These are called Standard Spending Assessments (SSA) and are worked out according to a formula that takes into account every factor in the council area from the age of the population to the level of prosperity and the

These SSAs, announced yesterday: fix the cap on each authority's budget. A council can only raise tax to collect up to that amount. If it sets a budget in excess of that it must either take money from reserves or try to persuade the Environment Department of its case. If it fails it has to pay the expensive penalty of rebilling every household.

A series of tight settlements this decade means that all but a tiny handful now spend up to their capping limit and



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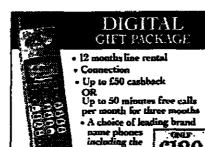
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THE TIMES THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28 1996

delayed by wary Tories

BY ARTHUR TEATHLEY

SENIOR Tories have delayed the Wirral South byelection until next year after warnings that a defeat next month could lead to important legislation

being disrupted.
The Government's maiority of one is expected to be wiped out next month when the Labour-held Barnsley East seat is contested. The Tories will then defend a vulnerable majority of 8,183 in Wirral South, which became vacant when Barry Porter died

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this month. The decision to delay the confest until late January at least comes as Commons officials have warned that two by-election defeats next month could force the Government to give up control of committees that study the detail of Bills. However, if the Tories avoid slipping into a Commons minority until late January or February, they are expected to retain control of the committees until the

general election. Yesterday Labour named its candidate for Wirral South as Ben Chapman, 56, a businessman

Goldsmith chooses his words for big question on Europe

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

last night revealed the wording of the referendum question on the future of Europe that he wants to put to the

British people.

The leader of the Referendum Party, who is challenging the former Tory minister David Mellor in Putney at the general election, made his long-awaited announcement in a speech at the Oxford

Sir James makes clear, in a £225,000 newspaper advertis-ing campaign today, his belief that the voters should have a straight choice between a federal Europe or a block of independent trading nations.

The announcement was deliberately timed to come 24 hours after the Budget which the Referendum Party believes is effectively Britain's last before Europe assumes economic control — and only. days before talks on the EU stability pact.

In the full-page advertise-ment The Referendum Party states: The question the people must be allowed to answer. Do you want the United Kingdom to be part of

SIR JAMES GOLDSMITH a federal Europe or do you want the United Kingdom to return to an association of sovereign nations that are part of a common trading market?" Sir Alan Walters, the former economics adviser to Baroness Thatcher, helped to draw up the question.

But the latest move from Sir James was attacked by David Heathcoat-Amory, who resigned as Paymaster General this year to campaign against a single currency. He said: "I think the Referendum Party position is vacuous and pathetic. It would deliver an ambiguous result because it is a loaded question.

"It merely seeks an expres-sion of public support, which Sir James would then walk away from. It would not be binding on anyone."

However, sources close to the Tory Euro-sceptic John Redwood said that Sir James was on the right path. "He is following the advice given in a meeting with John Redwood in April. Do you want a common market or a common government," a Redwood sup-

The question includes an

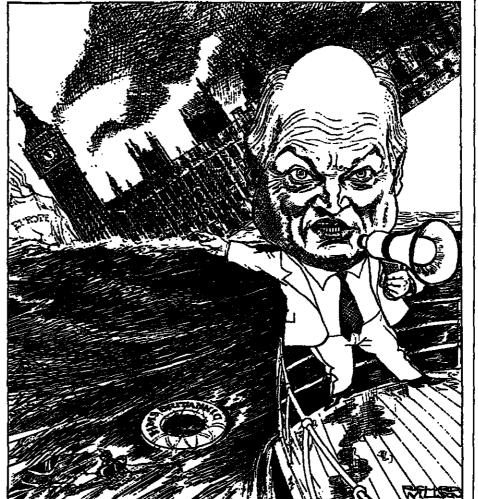
explanation of Sir James's definition of a federal Europe as one that is answerable to the European Parliament, the European Commission, and the European Court of Justice: a Europe where nations must bow to European law.

By contrast the "common trading market" is defined as one that would allow the free movement of goods, services, labour and capital but limit the power of the institutions to ensuring a fair marketplace. The institutions would be restricted from entering into the political and judicial arena. Last night sir James also spelt out his proposals for a referendum campaign. He is seeking a vote before or on the same date of the general

for the "yes" and "no" cam-But the chosen formula for the referendum question attracted a derisory response from the European Movement, which supports a single currency. Giles Radice, the chairman and Labour MP, said: "What the question real-

election. He supports equal

access to television and radio



stay in or withdraw from Europe'. No one is under any illusion. But the fact is Goldsmith is in trouble.

"Both Labour and the Conservatives are committed to a referendum if agreed Cabinet currency. That is the really big issue. There is no point in the Referendum Party."

The Referendum Party. which has named 350 candidates to fight the general election, has accelerated the selection procedure to ensure

that 600 are in place by Christmas.

A target of 400,000 party members has been set for the election. The figure stands at almost 80,000, an increase of 30,000 since the party's conference in Brighton last month.

thresholds, even though Labour

als addresses the fiscal dilemma

facing any new government. At

present, Mr Brown is relying on a

no-risk strategy of ruling out new

spending commitments apart from

those where financing is specifical-

ly identified, as above. But that is

not good enough. If Labour is to

offer a convincing alternative, and

to avoid charges of betrayal after

the election, it needs to make a start

now of showing where it would

save and raise money. Mr Brown

has to prove he can graduate from being Shadow to real Chancellor.

PETER RIDDELL

However, none of these propos

will not vote against these.

Labour will cut fuel VAT to 5%

By Pihlip Webster POLITICAL EDITOR

GORDON BROWN promised last night that if he becomes Chancellor he will cut VAT on heating bills from 8 per cent to 5 per cent in his first Budget.

The Shadow Chancellor used his Budget response television broadcast to the country to offer the voters a commitment that would cost a Labour government £450 million to

Mr Brown's office swiftly confirmed that £120 million of the cost would be found by ending tax relief on private medical insurance for the elderly. The rest would come from a detailed tax package to be presented by Mr Brown in a speech in January.

On a day when the parties engaged in fierce exchanges about the Tories' tax record. Mr Brown said in his broadcast that every family in Britain would be better off as a result of his first Budget.

In the Commons earlier, he repeated Labour's claim that although the Chancellor had made made modest tax cuts on Tuesday the total tax burden. taking account of increases that were already in the pipeline, would rise next year. He accused ministers of "systematic deception" adding: "The people were told they were going to have tax cuts year on year and were then let down. Whichever way you look at it. under this Government taxes have risen."

But Kenneth Clarke intervened to claim that the total tax burden was no higher than it was in 1991-92 before the last general election.

Mr Brown said that Budget tax rises on petrol, tobacco and other items would cost the taxpayer more than £2 billion in a full year and wipe out the impact of the Ip cut in income tax. "It's not just that they have given with one hand and taken with another. That we already know. It's in this Budget that they have once again taken more from the British people than they have

Brown must prove he can be more than a mere shadow

Opposition politician. He is: single-minded, eloquent and witty, as he showed again in the Commons yesterday. But government is about decisions, not just words. Mr Brown's predicament is that the more he attacks the Government's economic plans, and the more Labour spokesmen protest about "cuts" in this or that programme, the more they show how little freedom of manoeuvre he would have as Chancellor and how

limited Labour's options are. Mr Clarke managed a skilful holding operation, based on optimistic economic assumptions. But any post-election Chancellor will almost certainly have to tighten

excessively high level of public borrowing for this stage of the recovery. Moreover, the closer the projections in the Red Book are examined, the more it is clear that the Government's spending plans are unsustainable. What is known as the control total is projected to rise by 0.2, 0.7 and 0.6 per cent respectively over the next three years in real terms. The overall rate of growth of spending has been reduced substantially in the past three years, but these figures will be hard

SOBREZE ON SOME PROGRAMMES. For example, the Treasury is spokesmen about underfur projecting that spending on the training, local authorit NHS will rise next year but be London underground etc.

to achieve without a further drastic

broadly flat in real terms for the following two years. According to Mr Clarke, what would happen next year, as in other recent years, would be that extra spending would be allocated to the NHS from the reserve. That means that some of the uncommitted reserve for unforeseen items has already been cannarked. Labour would therefore have little scope within current spending plans, let alone to deal with the complaints made by party spokesmen about underfunding of training, local authorities, the

Consequently, if Mr Brown, rather than Mr Clarke, had been delivering the Budget on Tuesday, his proposals would have been very much the same, at least in aggregate. The alternative Mr Brown offered in his broadcast last night was long on gestures, but shorter on differences of substance. There are the famous five early pledges — such as providing jobs and training for young people financed by the windfall levy on privatised utilities, smaller school classes paid for by phasing out the Assisted Places Scheme and reduced hospital waiting lists as a result of administrative savings. The financing proposals are mainly one-off actions of dubious merit, while Labour has not yet

established a watertight case for the utilities levy. Mr Brown last night firmed up the party's promise to reduce VAT on heating bills from 8 per cent to the 5 per cent minimum allowed. This would cost £450 million and would be partly financed by ending tax relief for private medical insurance for the over-60s. But this would cover only just over a quarter

of the cost and the rest will be revealed in Labour's detailed tax package early in the New Year. He also repeated the objective of a new lower starting rate of tax of 10p. So a Brown Budget might have had a different balance of tax measures, with no cut in the basic rate and different changes in allowances and

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The hole in Labour's land plan is on my lawn, says Heseltine

By MICHAEL HORNSBY COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL HESELTINE said yesterday that there was a hidden menace lurking behind Labour proposals for a legal "right to roam" over the

Recalling the "monstrous" invasion of his country estate by protesters against opencast ining last month, the Deputy Prime Minister said that other landowners would be exposed to similar action if such a law went ahead. He was speaking after addressing a conference in London on access to the countryside, organised by the Country Landowners' Association. whose 50,000 members are estimated to own half of England and Wales.

Mr Heseltine said there was no case for legislation, even as a last resort against recalcitrant or unreasonable landowners: "I do not want to accept that, because there may be the odd exceptional case, you should menace the livelihood of large numbers of people in the farming_and agricultural industry. These

people have to make their living in the countryside. They care deeply about the countryside, and the thought that the law is going to intrude further into their lives is something with which I have great

sympathy. "People who invaded my garden were Labour councillors, and that was a monstrous thing to do. It is actually the new Labour Party that invaded my farm in order

to dig a hole." In the incident at Mr

Heseltine's Palladian home. Thenford Hall in Northamptonshire, about 50 people armed with pickaxes dug a 10ft hole in his lawn. It was reported that two Labour councillors in Hammersmith and Fulham had been among the protesters. Donald Dewar. Labour's chief whip, subsequently promised to "deal with" the two if their involvement was proved.

The Labour Party was unable to say yesterday whether any action had been taken.



Protesters at the Deputy Prime Minister's estate

spokesman on rural affairs. who spoke at the conference in support of legislation allowing a qualified right to roam, said: am not aware that the protesters were Labour councillors, but we certainly would

not condone any breaking of

Mr Heseltine told delegates that he supported the CLA's view that voluntary agree ments between local people. landowners and farmers were the best way to open up the countryside and that many such agreements were already in place. Right to roam leglisation would be impractical and unworkable". Mr Heseltine said, and would secure additional access at the expense of increased disturbance to wildlife and livestock, erosion, pollution and vandal-

to more demands once a right was established. Mr Morley said that his party would bring in legislation to provide for a statutory

right of access on foot to

ism. Although the Labour

qualified right, he feared that landowners would be subject

was talking about a

moorland and existing common land", subject to reasonable restrictions to protect farming, shooting and nature conservation interests.

Attempts to increase access by negotiation had had only a a limited impact, Mr Morley said. Only a fifth of common land was open to the public, and access to an area of woodland twice the size of the Isle of Wight had been lost because of piecemeal sales of land by the Forestry Com-

Alan Mattingly, director of the Ramblers Association, which has 118,000 members, said voluntary agreements had proved costly, difficult or even impossible to negotiate on any scale. The only solution was for access to the countryside on foot to be based on legally protected rights.

Before the conference, Ewen Cameron, president of the CLA, was embarrassed by the disclosure that a public footpath had been blocked by a potato crop on his farm at Ilminster. Somerset. He said the temporary obstruction was a mistake by a farmhand.



Heseltine yesterday: "Labour invaded my farm"

Pharmacists win right to compete with country GPs

By Dominic Kennedy, social affairs correspondent

COUNTRY doctors said yesterday that they might have to reduce their services to remote populations after losing a High Court action against

pharmacists. A test case, described as a battle between two professions, was won by the pharmacists, who established the right to open chemist's shops in direct competition with country GPs who dispense

drugs.
The doctors were ordered to pay costs, likely to run into five figures, but were granted leave to take their case to the Court of Appeal. Many rural GPs receive an important part of their practice income from the sale of medicines at inhouse pharmacies.

Michael Beloff, QC, for the doctors, told the two-day hearvital importance to the quality £200,000 in a new wing to shop.

of medical services provided by many rural practices. Lord Justice Schiemann up-

held a decision allowing Paul Watson and John Crump to open a pharmacy in Holme upon Spalding Moor. East Riding. Permission had been given by the local Family Health Services Authority in 1994, but the pharmacists have since faced a series of legal challenges by three GPs in the village. Simon Robinson, Jerry Marsden and Rich-

ard Moore. The judge also backed Rajesh Morjaria, who opened a pharmacy in September this year in Madeley, Stafford-shire, despite a risk that he would be forced to close it if John Worthington and partners, of the Moss Lane surgery, won their case. The

their surgery and depended on income from dispensing drugs to pay off their debt.

However, the judge ruled that Family Health Services Authorities were not obliged to consider the impact on GPs' revenue, or the service they provided, when deciding whether to grant leave for chemist's shops to open. The 1977 National Health

Service Act, he said, made clear that doctors would be allowed to dispense drugs only in exceptional circumstances and that the prime suppliers of medicines should be pharmacists. Exceptions to the rule were made in rural areas where there was no independent pharmacy and where nationts would have extreme difficulty because of distance or poor communica-

Suffolk is safest " illi for road users

By A Staff Reporter

THE safest roads in England and Wales are in Suffolk and Tyne and Wear, while London has the most dangerous, according to an accident league table published yesterday.

The table is based on the ratio of personal-injury road accidents to a county's popula-tion. Nearly two in five counties showed an increase in personal accidents last year.

compared with 1994. Greater London had 5.42 accidents per thousand population while the figure for both
Tyne and Wear and Suffolk was 3.06. The biggest increases were in the former county of Avon (up 15.9 per cent) and Co Durham (up 95 per cent), while the biggest falls were in Powys (down 13.9 per cent). Norfolk (a fall of 12.1 per cent) and Cornwall (down 9.3 per cent).

After Greater London, the most accident-prone areas were Surrey (5.21 accidents per thousand population). Chesh-ire (4.71), Greater Manchester (4.62) and Cambridgeshire (4.61). The safest counties after Suffolk and Tyne and Wear were the former counties of Gwent (3.19), Mid Glamorgan

and Avon (both 3.20).

Overall, the average number of accidents per thousand of population in England and Wales in 1995 was 4.13, compared with 4.21 in 1994. The total number of accidents fell

from 217,324 to 213,851.

David Cutt, marketing manager of Royal Insurance Direct, which produced the table, said: "Measures taken to make roads safer over the past ten years seem to have had a positive effect overall. However, with many counties recording an increase, there is no room for complacency."

☐ Mock driving tests which the Driving Standards Agency plans to introduce in the spring are an abuse of its monopoly, the British School of Motoring said.

The tests, which will cost more than the £28.50 for the real ones, would be "unwelcome and outside the DSA's legal boundaries" and would anger and confuse learnerdrivers, the BSM said. The DSA said that it was fully entitled to introduce them and dates "a confidence boost".

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Aggrieved 'routiers were driven to conflict'

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE French lorry industry has been hurtling towards the current crisis at increasing speed for several years.

Most of the industry's 174,000 routiers insist they are underpaid, overworked and under-appreciated for a job that is boring, dangerous and lonely, but vital to the nation's economic health.

Haulage bosses, however, argue that with increasing European competition, a failing economy and higher fuel prices, they cannot improve the lot of their employees - at least not without huge govern-ment help to defray the social taxes that form a weighty part

of every French payroll. A study by the Department of Transport recently conceded that lorry drivers work longer hours for lower pay than most French workers. The average monthly take-home pay for a French driver is just Fr6,900 (£860), while many work more than 300 hours a month.

France has some 41,000 road transport companies. with a combined annual turnover of Fr35 billion, ranging from huge haulage companies to self-employed drivers in battered camions taking produce from village to village in rural France.

Nearly three-quarters of all such companies employ five people or less, and it is these that have been hit hardest by increased taxes on fuel, the price of which has risen by more than 45 pence a gallon in

the past year alone. In 1998 France will be completely open to European competition and many hauliers are fearful of being under-cut by a flood of Spanish owner-drivers whose prices are at least 15 per cent lower than the French average.

drivers is that they are paid

and not for hours spent waiting or loading. People may associate us with the Routier restaurants, but most French drivers can't afford to eat often in places like that. Mostly it's cold cans in the back of the

only for time "on the road",

complained. In October last year, a progress contract was put in place to reduce working hours gradually from 240 hours a month this year to 200 hours in 1999, but with haulage companies feeling the economic oinch the contract has been widely ignored.

The current dispute is the first to pit drivers against haulage bosses and the strength and organisation of the protest has taken both hauliers and the Government by surprise.

Union membership among French lorry drivers has traditionally been low, but since 1990 it has boomed and well over half the workforce is now unionised. As union leaders are quick to point out, the current strike is putting intense pressure on the state which is by far the largest user of commercial road haulage.

Drivers and bosses stood together in the 1992 strike to oppose a rigorous new points system on licences, but since then relations have soured as the threat of unemployment, now standing at a record 12.6 per cent, has grown.

"We have the most reactionary bosses in the world," declared Roger Poletti, the fiery head of the Force Ouvrière's lorry union. They have the mentality of 19th century shopkeepers."

Most French citizens support the lorry drivers' demands for higher pay, shorter hours and earlier retirement. bosses, who will pay for it.

Blockade leader declares war on **Paris**

FROM STEPHEN FARRELL

A MILITANT French union official leading the Calais lorry blockade yesterday declared war against his Government and threatened to use petrol bombs and stones against riot police if they intervened.

In his distinctive black Russian hat and red jacket, Phi-lippe Rault has quickly become a dockside figure head for the French protesters who are stopping hundreds of British truckers crossing the

M Rault, 42, has been a CFDT transport union representative for just one week and is involved in his first blockade. "C'est la guerre," he insisted yesterday on the rainy, windswept tarmac where hundreds of lorries sat bumper to bumper for miles on end, their drivers powerless to deliver cargo or stop perishable loads rotting.

"In 1992 and 1993 in France we had a dispute and the police brought in tanks with ropes to drag the lorries away from the barricades," M Rault said. "If the police try to do it again here we will defend ourselves. It is war for all of us. We will use our hands, chairs, fire and Molotov cocktails, no problem.

"The Government in the past treated us like dogs, not like human beings. They nev-er opened the doors to us. But this Government has opened the door a little for us to enter. If we hadn't blocked all of France the door would never have been opened."

M Rault is union representative for 60 French drivers at the Calais depot of Norbert Dentressangle, the company based in St Vallier, Le Drome. He said his men had not prepared petrol bombs or other defences in advance, but would do so "at the last minute," if riot police moved

solidarity of the truckers' na- spends three to four days a the British lorry drivers. He is company only pays drivers said.



Philippe Rault monitors the blockade in Calais yesterday. The man controlling drivers obstructing traffic at the port, it is unclear whether he is a rogue official or is acting with the backing of union leaders in Paris

tionwide action and their success in blocking petroi depots used by government vehicles, made such intervention unlikely.

scores of French truckers manning the blockade, spoke as his Parisian union leaders began yet another round of talks with the Government and employers. It is unclear whether he is a rogue local official or acting with their backing. British officials yesterday claimed he had been ordered by fax to lift the blockade but M Rault denied

receiving any instructions.

A father of four from Peupingues, near the Channel Tunnel entrance, he drives for the huge French company, However, he believed the Norbert Dentressangle, and M Rault insists he admires granted. He protests that his couple of nights," Mr Paddon

Shireen El-Wahab

week in Britain. He became a trucker four years ago after two and a half years of unemployment when he was laid off as a fireman after the British-owned Courtaulds de-

M Rault, surrounded by pot in Calais was closed down. Two huge red

> Dentressangle lorries slewed across the harbour entrance form the Calais blockade, with other entrances to the port blocked by large bolders and jagged metal road signs.

barricade explaining his men's position to British drivers and journalists. Although his English is good, he began insisting on using French yesterday, claiming British television spread lies that he

often seen at the head of the

6 We will defend ourselves. It is war. We will use our hands, chairs, fire and Molotov cocktails, no problem 9

had been ordered to end the dispute. M Rault and his men have three main demands, a retirement age of 55, more pay and better working condi-

tions. The first has been

for working 198 hours a month, although they often work 20 or 30 more hours without pay while waiting or loading trucks.

He acknowledges his demands for his gross pay of Fr7,500 a month (£1,000) to be raised to Fri0,000 are unlikely to be met. His men have some sympathy from British drivers, not least Don Paddon, 46, from Hemel Hempstead who also works for Dentressangle but is paid overtime, unlike his French colleagues.

I agree with what they're doing. To be honest Rault and the other French drivers are all right to us, there is no animosity and they have been sharing their coffee and whisky with us over the last

Shiftless sons the bane of Italian 'mammas'

man

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

THE image of the Italian male as "mamma's boy" is reinforced this week by a poli showing that more than half of Italian men live at home with one or both parents until

the age of 35. The poll, published in La Repubblica, coincided with a court case in which a 46-year-old woman was forced to take her "shiftless" 24-year-old son back into her home after evicting him.

A court in Ferrara ruled that a shop assistant, named only as Anna Maria, had acted improperly in refusing to give house room to her son, Luca. She said she had been separated from her husband for a year and, as a single parent, had quite enough to do looking after her 11-year-old daughter without cooking and cleaning for Luca. She said her son, a petrol-pump atten-dant, was quite capable of finding a flat of his own, but preferred to spend his money on "fast cars and designer clothes". She said he had struck her, insulted her and broken everything in the house", while refusing to contribute to the household budget. She had thrown him out, and he had gone to "sponge off" his grandparents instead. Luca took legal advice and the case went to the local court where the judge, Francesco Salzano, found no evidence that the family's circumstances were as "intolerable" as Luca's mother had

But La Repubblica said the mother had every right to throw her son our maternal love has its limits" it said in an editorial. If the young man had been her husband rather than her son. the court would have had no difficulty in agreeing to a separation or divorce." It added that there was "something profoundly wrong with a socialways want their mamma".



The IMechE Highest Flyers Awards

As part of its 150th Anniversary celebrations, the TOP 150 STUDENTS WANTING A PRIZE OF £150 EACH Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE) invited every secondary school in the United Kingdom to identify the young people who achieved the most passes at GCSE or Scottish

Stephen Ball

Jonathan Davies

The winners of IMechE's Highest Flyers Asserds have passes in English Language, Mathematics, a second language, Physics and Chemistry (including double award), or equivalent technology subjects, together with as many further passes as possible, typically achieving a dozen or so A or A* passes or a weighted number of Scottish awards.

Standard level.

Significantly, the winners are not required to be planning a career in mechanical engineering. The Institution believes that by gaining an appreciation of the social and economic importance of engineering, the 150 brightest pupils of '96 will be at an advantage, whatever their career choice.

The winning students will be presented with a bronze medal and £150 at a special ceremony to be held at the Institution's headquarters in London on 20 March 1997. They will also be taken to the worldleading Rutherford Appleton Laboratories for an introduction to the world of mechanical engineering The students will be enrolled in a career-long chib of excellence, The IMechE 150 Clab, which will follow and reunite them as their curous develop.

Recognizing the important role that the schools have played, awards of a plaque and £1500 will be made to the ten schools that have the most students in the top 150.

The Institution of Mechanical Engineers has over 78,000 members worldwide. For information on embership or any other aspect of the Institution's work in promoting mechanical engineering, please contact

De Richard Pike Director General The Institution of Mecha 1 Birdcage Walk London SW1H 9]]

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THE TIMES THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28 1996

sons the US racketeering court can rule on German car wars

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THE car war between Volkswagen and General Motors an epic tale of betrayal, espionage and bruised vanity entered a decisive phase yesterday as the German manufacturer reeled from a federal judgment that it could be investigated under US racke-

Italian

mamma

teering laws.
Volkswagen shares plunged on the German stock exchange and while the company put a brave face on the US ruling, it was plainly

rattled: General Motors claims that Jose Ignacio Lopez, its former manager, took crateloads of secret documents with him when Volkswagen poached him three years ago from Opel, GM's German

subsidiary. "There was no industrial espionage on behalf of Volkswagen, a VW company spokesman said yesterday. Volkswagen is adamant that thorough investigations by independent investigators have ven no indication that VW had access to, or made us of,

Opel-GM business secrets." US district judge Nancy Edmunds has nonetheless accepted GM's claim that the espionage case can be dealt with in America under the Rico (Racketeer Influenced

and Corrupt Organisations) Act. The racketeering argument is based on the GM claim that Ferdinand Piech. Volkswagen's chairman, and

other senior executives, conspired to steal General Motors secrets, using a corporate jet to ferry the documents to VW's guest villa in Wolfsburg. The documents, says GM.

were then copied into VW computers, and shredded: VWpointed out that the judge had not ruled for or against GM's allegations, but had merely decided that the case qualified

as a Rico investigation. The practical implication is that if VW is found guilty, it could be saddled with



Piech: accused of conspiracy to steal

payout amounting to billions of dollars. It has not been a good year for Volkswagen. A storian has just completed a large company history, presenting documents that show it used slave labour during the Second World War. A concentration camp was even set up close to the car factory to

provide workers. GM and Opel have won a series of court victories in recent weeks against VW and Senor Lopez, His lawyer says he expects German prosecutors to file criminal charges against his client soon, which can only further tarnish the image of VW.

A Frankfurt court last Friday approved the transfer of German investigation documents to the US Justice Department and FBI.

The company seems to have been hit simultaneously by the plague, fire and the tempest," said an industrial observer yesterday.

Opel's conditions for a deal are the dismissal of Senor Lopez, well-publicised apologies, and a great deal of cash. More than 80 lawyers are currently employed by the two manufacturers.

Meanwhile, the French lorry drivers' dispute is leading to layoffs at VW.



A protester carries a torch during a demonstration in Belgrade yesterday. The Serbian democratic opposition is protesting at the restaging of local elections which they say they had already won. They accuse the ruling Socialists of blatant election rigging. An appeal to the Supreme Court to stop the poll has been rejected

Prodi cautioned over single currency

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

CESARE ROMITI, the head of Fiat and one of Italy's most powerful industrialists, yesterday warned Romano Prodi, the embattled Prime Minister, not to "rush into the single currency" even

though the lira has re-joined the Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM). Europe can wait, Signor Romiti said. The priority should be to reduce unem-

ployment and avoid recession. The lira re-entered the ERM last weekend after a four-year absence, as part of Italy's bid to join the European

single currency in 1999. But after tortuous negotiations it entered at a much less favourable rate than Italy had wanted.

Signor Prodi, in addition to public protests over the "budget for Europe" vesterday faced calls for his resignation following charges that he was involved in

Spanish fish row will end soon'

By Tunku Varadarajan

BRITAIN and Spain Texpect to reach an agreement very soon" on the vexed question of fish quota hoopers, John Maior said vesierday.

Speaking at Downing Street on the occasion of the visit to London of José Maria Aznar. the Spanish Prime Minister. Mr Major emphasised why a solution to the problem, which has led to a depletion of Britain's fish stocks by Britishflagged Spanish fishermen. was needed urgently.

He said: "The impact on our fishing villages has been great. For every fisherman at sea, there are large numbers of people on land whose livelihoods depend on the

Responding to Senor Aznar's criticism of the Castro regime in Cuba, which on Tuesday said it would refuse to accept the newly appointed Spanish Ambassador to Havana, Mr Major offered the Spanish Government Britain's unqualified support. He said: "Cuba's treament of the Spanish Ambassador is simply not tolerable."

Both Prime Ministers were cautious about Gibraltar, the one bilateral issue on which little progress was made yesterday. Officials from the two countries are to meet in the next few days" to discuss ways of restarting the so-called Brussels process of talks.

Kohl steady under fire over euro rules

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

GERMANY yesterday defended its demands for sanctions against countries which stray from budgetary virtue in a future single currency as Bonn faced mounting pres-sure from France and other

Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, insisted that the so-called stability pact was vital to ensure that the euro remained a "hard currency".
That is not arrogance, but comes from 50 years of experi-ence in Germany," he told

But he came under attack from Oskar Lafontaine, leader of the Social Democrat opposition, over the pact, which is being drafted for the Dublin EU summit next month With 18 million out of work in Europe we don't need a stability pact, but a pact for jobs and

growth," he said. EU monetary officials failed this week to reach a compromise that would satisfy Bonn's hardline conditions for defining the circumstances in which countries would be

SWIFTCALL

exempt from paying heavy fines for running high deficits. Finance ministers are to try again for agreement on Monday, but Ruairi Quinn, the Irish Finance Minister, said last night that it was far from certain that the pact would even be settled in Dublin. Only The Netherlands supports Germany's harder conditions, although all EU states agree to the principle of im-EMU members in certain conditions.

Unhappiness over the pact in France prompted Alain Juppe, the Prime Minister, yesterday to voice criticism of the German approach. EU leaders should be left with responsibility for deciding

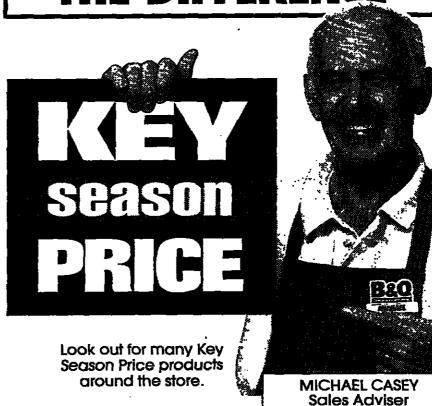
each year how to apply the rules on stability, he said. Jacques Delors, the former president of the EU Commission, who led the Commission in the Maastricht negotiations, accused Germany of putting a higher priority on deficit-cutting than on growth and reducing unemployment.

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Yeltsin oligarchy 'bad as old regime' says Solzhenitsyn

FROM RICHARD BERSTON IN MOSCOW

THE former Soviet dissident writer, Alexander Solzhenitsyn, has launched a fierce attack on the Kremlin, accusing President Yeltsin's Government of hijacking demo-cratic reforms and behaving no better than the Communist regime it replaced.

In language reminiscent of the Nobel Prize-winning author's savage attacks on the Soviet leadership. Mr Solzhenitsyn said that his country was run by an oligarchy who controlled the Government, the media and the economy.

"Former members of the communist elite, along with Russia's new rich, who instant fortunes through banditry, have formed an exclusive . . . oligarchy of 150 to 200 people that run the country," he wrote in an article in Le Monde entitled "Russia close to its deathbed".

"In the past ten years of reforms ... the ruling circles have not displayed higher moral standards than those in the communist era," he said. "The Government enjoys the same impunity as the former communist power and cannot be called a democracy."

Since his return from exile two and a half years ago, Russians have grown accustomed to Mr Solzhenitsyn's periodic attacks on contemporary life in Russia, particular-ly the influence of Western culture, the corruption of goveconomic reforms. Although

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER

YASSIR ARAFAT, the Pales-

tine Authority leader, has

infuriated hardliners on both

sides of the Israeli-Palestinian

divide by holding talks with 12 Jewish settlers. The meeting in

the West Bank town of Bethle-

hem on Tuesday night also

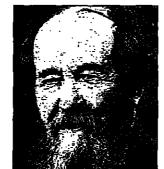
included an Israeli whose son

was murdered by Islamic

he remains respected for his stand against the communists and his literary works, including A Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich and Cancer Ward, until now his observations

have been largely ignored. His essay, published this week, is by far the most damning commentary to date. It comes at a particularly vulnerable time for the Krem-lin, which is plagued by scandals of corruption and

Much of the author's criticism is directed at the system of government in Russia, where he argues the wishes of the people are rarely reflected at local, provincial or federal the Duma, the parliament, the Constitutional Court and even the government ministries have been drained of effective power by the presidency,



Solzhenitsyn: demands

ism, education and industry,

was to have been secret but

details were leaked. Few of

those who attended were will-

ing to reveal their identities for

Some of the Israeli and

Palestinian participants

described the encounter, held

on the neutral territory of

Bethlehem's Greek Orthodox

Church compound, as surpris-

fear of retaliation.

which runs the affairs of state through unelected councils appointed by the President.

One of his greatest complaints is the state of the media, which supposedly was unshackled during the Gorb-achev era of glasnost, but which he contends is firmly regulated and censored by

For example, he cites the pro-Yeltsin coverage of the presidential elections. He complained that on one occasion he gave an interview to NTV, the so-called indepen-dent television network, which edited out his criticism of the Kremlin and his advice to voters not to support either candidate in the vote.

Mr Solzhenitsyn savages the Kremlin's handling of economic reforms, in particular the privatisation pro-gramme, and the bloody war in Chechnya, which he views as a parable for everything that is wrong in Russia today. However, he is not uniform-

ly critical and reserves praise in his article for General Aleksandr Lebed, the former national security adviser, who helped negotiate a peace deal in Chechnya but was sacked for insubordination by President Yeltsin.

Mr Solzhenitsyn did not offer any concrete alternative course, but issued a warning that as long as Russia ignored its people and continued on its current path it would remain

Arafat meets settlers in secret There was no antagonism, but it was not a love feast," David Bedein, of Efrat settlement, said. He said the settlers had requested the meeting. One settler from Kiryat Arba, too afraid to be identified, said he saw "co-

operation" as vital. A Palestinian official said the settlers expressed readiness to accept Palestinian selfrule and sought peaceful co-

'He has deep roots in the Russian soul and ancient faith'



Rasputin letters to **Tsarina** unearthed

By MICHARL BINYON DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

SECRET letters between the last Tsarina of Russia and Rasputin, the "mad monk" held responsible for a hypnotic and malign influence on the Russian royal family, have been discovered by a leading Russian historian.

Edvard Radzinsky, whose biography of Stalin was pub-lished to widespread acclaim in the West this year, has obtained unpublished correspondence between Rasputin and Alexandra, who believed the holy man's healing powers could cure her son's haemophilia. The letters were smuggled out of Russia after the Revolution and have been kept hidden in a private

Mr Radzinsky has also had access to a report drawn up by the Provisional Gov-ernment in 1917 after the abdication of Nicholas II on March 4. A tribunal, set up to look at the "illegal" actions of tsarist officials, conducted unprecedented interrogatons of former officials from March until October. It focused especially on the scandalous life of Rasputin, murdered a year earlier.

They were were trying to prove their view that he was the debauched monster," Mr Radzinsky said. The report includes descriptions of the brothels Rasputin frequented, the testimony of prostiGregory Rasputin, the "mad monk" and mystic healer, with a group of society admirers and devotees in about 1915. All the women have now been indentified by the Russian historian Edvard Radzinsky in the next two years, would American historians of Rusnot detail the correspondence with Tsarina Alexandra. But he said the letters reveal Rasputin as a more complex character than biographers have portrayed. "He has deep roots in the Russian soul and in ancient religion. He was not just a holy man or a Siberian peasant: he represents a more mysterious sect, an aspect of pagan

> Mr Radzinsky would not speculate on Rasputin's political power or role: "I will not form an opinion in advance. This is the fault of many

Asian Russia still present in

said he had identified all the women in the famous picture of the monk surrounded by He said Anna Vrybova, the best known and the confidante of Alexandra, was a clever woman and not the

sia. I want to let Rasputin co-operate in shaping his image,

Biographics until now had

failed to grasp the essence of a man who was simply intangible. They had also failed to track down Raspu-

tin's liaisons. Mr Radzinsky

just as I let Stalin do.

primitive, ignorant person as commonplace as a bubble



cruising aboard the royal yacht Standart in 1910

in biscuit dough" as she was later portrayed. Mr Radzinsky maintains that the usual description of Rasputin's murder by Prince Yusupov and Vladimir Purishkevich, a monarchist deputy, relies solely on their own memoirs. He maintains that these accounts, which show him as a man who was poisoned, shot and finally

died are now open to doubt.

Mr. Radzinsky has just completed a prime-time tele-vision series on Stalin in MC 2711 Russia; a new series begins in January. He said Stalin, like Rasputin: was a creature of Russia. The striking thing now was the way that Russia

had reverted to those days. "The huge gap between rich and poor, the bourgeoisie's contempt for the peasthat people are now talking, but the authorities keep quiet. We now see 1916 as our golden age. But it is a langerous myth," added Mir

There was no equivalent of Rasputin in Yeltsin's Russia he said, but the country was

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published by the Bolsheviks

in the 1920s but the bulk of

the depositions disappeared immediately after 1917. Only

the final decree, issued by an

investigator with the unusual

name of O.P. Simpson, re-

mained in the Russian gov-

ernment archive. The other

documents, along with many key archives on the final years of the Romanovs, were

taken out of Russia by mon-

archists and tsarist officials

after the storming of the

The authenticity of these

documents was easy to estab-lish: each was written on a

special form, and each page was signed by an interroga-tor and a witness. They

detailed the tsarist police's

round-the-clock surveillance of the "Dark One" or "The

called. They describe him

drunk, rushing through his

quarters in pursuit of a woman; his conversation with a prostitute; hypnotising

young women to submit to

his will; and his appearance

at the home of one of his

companions when he sobbed:

"I am the devil, can't you see.

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THE TIMES THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28 1996

Afghan leaders gather for final assault on Kabul foot of the snow-covered Hindu Kush. Yet more chilling for the fortunes of the Taleban fighters is the icy confidence of Ahmed Shah Masood, the Lion of Panjshery. On Gener-

the fate of the Afghan capital as he finalises his plans to retake Kabul. Striding into his headquar-ters in Jabal os-Siraj with characteristic panache, Gennimitable style: legs crossed, his right index finger resting on his check, and brow

al Masood's shoulders rests

His hooked nose, sweeping black hair and the pakul hat perched jauntily on the back of his head suggest something of a cross between Bob Marley and Bob Dylan. Although he is prepared for peace he appears to be much more

ready for war.
"If the other side is ready for negotiation then so are we," he began, knowing that all attempts so far at mediation with the Taleban have broken down. "But if not then we shall fight on to reach a belt of land around Kabul. As we don't want to take the battle. into the city when we reach this line the residents inside shall solve the other problems for themselves," he added, hinting at an insurrection from inside the city.

"The targets of our forces are clear: we shall then enter

At the foothills of the Hindu Kush, General Masood poses a chilling threat to the fortunes of the Taleban warriors. Anthony Loyd writes from Jabal os-Siraj

ernment from the most far

flung of northern provinces

have been gathering at Jabal os-Siraj for briefings and to

More troops loyal to General Masood's former enemy,

General Abdul Rashid

Dostum, the Uzbek warlord,

have appeared at the front line

bearing artillery and armour.

General Dostum is now in

overall command of the coali-

At one such meeting of the

such as which commanders

will desert to the other side at

any given moment for more

money or security. There is

also the complex issue of clan

rivalries beteen forces of Gen-

receive orders.

Kabul, set up a government with a broad base, a commission to stabilise security within the city, and form the basis for a referendum. Our allies have agreed to everything. The Taleban shall have no dream of theirs fulfilled in the near future."

Day by day events in the small, muddy town seem to lead credence to his words. While the bazaar is alive with rumours of an imminent "general attack, loyalist commanders of the ousted Gov-

allies recently General Ma-sood reiterated his wish that there should be no looting of houses in the capital; this was the type of detail that a commander usually relays at the end of the war rather than at the beginning of the action. However, there are many imponderables in Alghani-stan's civil war. Simple equations of troop numbers and disposition mean little, as these aspects are undermined by more abstract concepts

Masood: exudes

eral Masood and General Dostum in the newly cobbled military coalition.

Although General Dostum may be in overall command, he would probably be content to negotiate with the Taleban if it were not for General Masood's vanguard of warriors. How the alliance bears up against the evenly matched Taleban remains to be seen. Kabul could be retaken by Christmas, or held by the Taleban for a decade.

There is one grim certainty though. Eight months ago asked General Masood what his greatest concern was: he had answered "that foreign intervention in Afghanistan will lose the capital".

That fear was realised with Pakistan's continuing support for the Taleban advance. When I asked him the ques-tion again, he said: "I hope only that the fighting will not return to being a conflict within the city.

With no end in sight to the 17-year conflict in Afghanistan, the intractability of the Taleban, and the coalition force assembled to the north, it seems only a matter of time before the city's streets echo once more to the sound of

Delhi: India yesterday reiter ated its support for Burhanuddin Rabbani, the ousted Afghan President, and called for the demilitarisation of Kabul. (Reuter)



A Taleban artillery unit kneels in prayer at dusk near the front line north of Kabul. All attempts so far at mediation with the Islamic warriors have failed

Hutus put pressure on exiles to stay

FROM SAM KILEY IN SAKE, EASTERN ZAIRE

HUTU extremists yesterday tried desperately to keep their grip on refugees heading home for Rwanda, insisting that they should stay in eastern Zaire and hope that foreign relief would arrive to help them to remain in exile.

Members of the interahamwe (those who kill together] scuttled up and down long queues of fellow Hutu refugees waiting to mount trucks in Sake which would drive them the last 15 miles back to Rwanda. The refugees had spent a month wandering in the jungle and anxiously dodging fighting between the militia and east Zaire's rehels.

We want everyone to stay where they are. It is too dangerous to go home," a former administrator insisted. He denied he was a member of the militia, who have been hunted down by the Rwan-dan-backed rebels.

Many other refugees said that they had not been harmed by the guerrillas on their trek through the forests and steep mountains of the Masisi re gion west of Goma, but said that young men had been separated from other groups. They were taken away. I

assume they have been killed." said Yves. The former law student at Kigali University escaped the brutal screening process being carried out in the interior of Zaire because, although he is only 20, four weeks of playing a deadly game of hide-and-seek in which he tried to escape the Hutu militia and simultaneously avoid the rebels, left him looking closer to 40.

Yves also confirmed other reports that up to 100,000 refugees, mostly the interahamwe and their families. had set up a base at Walekale. 50 miles west of Sake.

With many refugees finding their way back to Rwanda having shaken off the interahamwe and survived rebel purges of suspected militiamen, eastern Zaire now looks ripe for a final showdown between the Hutu extremists and the rebels.

up a base in Walekale is an invitation to attack them. I suspect that we will accept." Laurent Kabila, leader of the rebel movement, said.

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Hijackers wanted to hit hotel and village

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN MORONI

MORE details are starting to "The true story is only now emerge about the hijackers who caused the Ethiopian Airways tragedy this week and their determination that everyone on board should die.

The co-pilot of the Boeing 767 has disclosed that the pilot was ordered to crash into a village near Le Galawa Hotel on the island, and then into the hotel. But despite being hit on the head with an axe, he

-- a

Details, emerged a during conversations between the copilot and Frank Sander, the front desk manager of the coming out, and it is not clear why the men were so determined to die," said Mr Sander yesterday. "The pilot cannot be praised enough. He was incredibly brave." Two men arrested after

being identified by survivors as the hijackers are still being held on the island. They are to appear in court today, al-though speculation has been managed to manoeuvre the , mounting that the real hijackaircraft away from the hotel, ers may be dead and the two and crash-landed 500 yards i may be falsely accused pasinnocent and base demanded

Comoreans have been accused of failing to help the injured from the aircraft, and of looting washed-up luggage.

Newlyweds sell crash video

By Christopher Walker

A COUPLE from South Africa honeymooning on the Como-ros Islands disclosed yester-day that they had sold a video recording of the crash of the hijacked Ethiopian Airlines Boeing 767, in which 125 died, for \$65,000 (£39,000).

In a radio interview. Dolf Gouws from Pretoria said his 23-year-old bride Marinda filmed the whole crash as they were relaxing on a beach. After a frantic auction among world media organisations, Mr Gouws said their video tape was bought by Worldand my wife were getting a tan there and she was filming me video, the aircraft came out of the palm trees it was about a metre above the

sea," he said. At first the newlyweds thought they were watching an air show. "Although we made a great

deal of money from the crash. we were really upset about it and felt terrible for the people who were killed," Mrs Gouws



said. The Boeing 767 was

hijacked on Saturday as it flew

from Addis Ababa to Nairobi

and crashed off the Comorns.

190 miles off the African coast,

when it ran out of fuel. Fifty

people, including two Britons,

survived the crash

The hijacked Boeing 767 crashes into the sea in a still from the honeymoon couple's amateur video

Rwanda priests save handicapped children

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN BUKAVU

Bukavu: Priests saved 52 handicapped children from last month's fighting in eastern Zaire, carrying many on their backs through the mountains. The refugees, due to return with relief workers to Rwanda this weekend, spent ten days away from Bukavu. As shells rained down

around their mission and Tutsi rebels advanced on the regional centre, eight priests six Belgian and two Zaireans - decided to escort the children, aged between 11 hills, Brother Bernard of the Brothers of Charity said.

The children, mostly physically handicapped but including two who are visually impaired, one blind and three mentally handicapped, were showing increasing signs of he said. "We decided to leave. There was savage fighting in the region. It was the safest thing to do. Half the town's population had already left. We must have been the last.

"We were helped by some of our local novices and we formed a group of about 100 people," Brother Bernard said. "We found ourselves caught up in the human tide ... it took us four days to

called Joseph — was lost among the thousand fleeing. He was traced to Kisangani, but there has been no sighting

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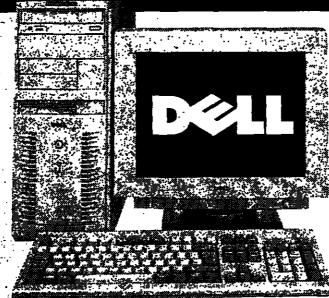
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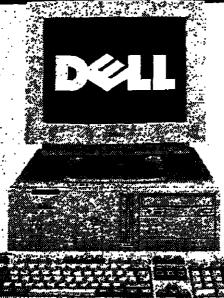
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Ξ'II

Republicans ready to take on Clinton in battle for poor

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT CLINTON is girding himself to try to soften the blow of new welfare laws on America's poorest people. The move will provoke a battle with the Republicans, bringing three weeks of post-election harmony to an abrupt

The President, who returned to Washington yesterday after his 12-day Asian tour, wants to claw back a quarter of the \$55 billion (£33 billion) cuts in government welfare spending, which will otherwise come into effect on January I — dubbed the Day of Armageddon by liberal welfare groups.

The move is set to put Mr Clinton on a collision course with the Republican-con-trolled Congress, which is staunchly opposed to changes. Clay Shaw, a Florida Congressman who was one of the Bill's architects, says: "Any substantive change would certainly be rejected. There's no sense changing it before you

give it a chance to work." The new law, drawn up last year by a Republican-backed Congress, radically changes the federal government safety net that has been in place for six decades since President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal. It sharply cuts benefits paid by Washington, and aims to push people to work removing state benefits. State governors, who have freedom to devise the details of the scheme for their region, are rushing to draw up plans: New York has drafted one of the harshest.

Problems are emerging by the day. With the economy slowing down, jobs are scarce. particularly ones suitable for people with few skills. States may have to create fake work" on their own payrolls and pay for workers' childcare at the same time, pushing up their welfare spending.

State governors are increasingly worried that local taxes will rise, encouraging well-off people to move away, while attracting poorer people from other states. Their alternative is to leave the poorest people without any safety net. Mr Clinton, who cam-

paigned in 1992 on the promise that he would "end welfare as we know it", rejected two earlier versions of the Bill. saying they were too harsh on

However, in a move which symbolised his conservative brand of Democratic policy, he signed the third version in August before his election campaign, in an attempt to court middle-class voters concerned about rising taxes.

During the campaign. Mr Clinton told voters to back him so that he could fix the new legislation. He cannot postpone that commitment, as he must thrash out the outlines of next year's budget within the next two months. White House officials are cautiously optimistic about the chances of persuading Congress to increase food stamps to families with high housing costs, who tend to have a large number of children. Stamps

about persuading Congress to lift the ban on food stamps for legal immigrants. Most controversial of all. Mr Clinton may ask Congress to relax the rule that gives adults with no dependants ordy three months of food stamps every three years unless they find work.

are worth an average of \$177 a

month to households. But

officials are more gloomy

He faces an uphill struggle, as the clause has widespread middle-class support. Trent Lott, the Senate majority leader, claims that Mr Clinton will face widespread popular opposition if he "starts pleading the case of how ablebodied people, under 50 with no dependent children, should be able to get limitless food stamps, every year and



President Clinton cuddles new-born babies during an Alaskan stopover yesterday as he returned from Asia

Thanksgiving cooks can do their stuff

By Tom Rhodes

EVEN as President Clinton released the traditional Thanksgiving turkey on the White House lawn yesterday the Government was embroiled in a heated debate over the dangers of stuffing the millions of birds to be cooked

for America's biggest holiday. In August, the US Agriculture Department issued the strongest warning to Americans against stuffing their turkeys. The food and safety inspection service advised that improperly cooked stuffing even death".

On the eve of Thanksgiving today, however, and under pressure from the turkey industry, the US Government has watered down that advice. "The stuffing should be moist rather than dry," the latest recommendations say. "And the centre of the stuffing must

reach 165F [74C]."

No longer is there any mention of death by salmonella. Instead, cooks are told to measure the internal temperature of the stuffing with a

thermometer. If they are unwilling to do that, then the stuffing should be cooked outside the bird.

Erin O'Brien, of the Turkey Federation, said: "Obviously they realised that the public going to go crazy with was not being able to stuff their turkeys and came to some

In Louisiana, residents of the bayou have found their own solution. Instead of stuffing their turkeys with a mix of meat and eggs, they have created the turducken a deboned turkey stuffed with debaned chicken: The strange fowl is said to

be flying off butcher's shelves in the South, and it has even caught on as far north as the But the majority of Ameri-

cans will stick to straight turkey with only the fortunate White House bird escaping the dinner table tonight.

The 60lb bird, presented to Mr Clinton for the traditional presidential pardon, was then sent to a petting zoo outside Washington.

Mandela upgrades ina ties iplomatic recognivan in formide

tion of Taiwan in favour of China, President Mandela said yesterday. During apartheid rule, South Africa had been a close ally of Taiwan while they were both shunned by international diplomacy. Three months ago, Mr

Mandela said it would be immoral for him to drop Taipei. Yesterday, however, he said Pretoria's guiding diplo-matic principle to the greater China region had been to seek cordial relations with both Chinas. Taiwan has issued a protest. (Reuter/AFP)

Duchess of chat

New York: The Duchess of York, who has appeared on many American chat shows in the past two weeks, has had "a number of offers" from television producers to front shows, her aides said.

'Abuse' by police

Jerusalem: Israeli border police routinely mistreat Palestinians, and officers convicted of abuse should be pun-ished more harshly, Michael Ben-Yair, the Attorney-General, said in a letter. (AP)

Gandhi ruling

New Delhi: Ashes of India's leader Mahatma Gandhi, left unclaimed for 46 years in a bank vault, must be immersed according to Hindu custom in the Ganges river, the Supreme Court said. (AP)

Bhutto setback

Islamahad: A Pakistani court withdrew a detention order on Asif Ali Zardari, the husband of Benazir Bhutto, the ousted Prime Minister, but another was issued, keeping him under arrest. (Reuter)

Paternity suits

Nuremberg: Parishioners of St Mary's Catholic Church here want their priest of the last II years to stay, although he is to become a father. But the diocese is insisting on the rules of celibacy. (AFP)

Opposition freed

supporters of Megawati Sukarnoputri, Indonesia's opposition figure, who were arrested four months ago after riots. Of those freed, only nine were acquitted. (Reuter)

Farewell to arms

Lisbon: Portugal's police detectives want more "danger money" and are threatening to hand in their guns and to strike for two days next month if the demand is not met, their union president said. (Reuter)

Reno joins alliance against President

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE Clintons have returned to Washington to face the unlikely alliance of Janet Reno, the lonely US Attorney-General with Parkinson's disease, and Republicans, who have threatened retaliation if the President forces her resignation from a second-term

Ms Reno's undying liberalism combined with her independent role at the Justice Department, where she has overseen the myriad investigations of scandals involving Mr Clinton and his wife, Hillary, are seen by White House loyalists as a continuing stumbling block to the success of the re-elected

Republicans on Capitol Hill, howev-

able to keep the White House in check. Trent Lott, the Senate majority leader. has announced he will implement a new round of hearings against the White House should Ms Reno be forced to resign and may even oppose the appointment of William Weld, the moderate Republican Governor of Massachussetts, who has announced that he would gladly accept the job.

In effect, three years after she emerged as his rising Cabinet star, Ms Reno has become not merely Mr Clinton's greatest headache in Cabinet but also the woman he cannot afford to

On his Asian tour this week. Mr Clinton finally acknowledged that he would meet Ms Reno at some time after the Thanksgiving holiday, starting tomorrow, to discuss her future.

clear that she does not want to leave the Justice Department. "I take each day as it comes," she said this week. "I'm like Scarlett O'Hara. And when I think about what else I'm going to do. I'll think about that tomorrow."

Her comparison to the embattled fictional character is one that many in Washington recognise. Despite her earlier prominence and close association with the Clintons, Ms Reno now suffers from encroaching Parkinson's disease and is never to be found at the intimate pizza and popcorn soirees held in the White House screening room. And while the Cabinet room has buzzed with post-election victory fever, she has been a subdued and solitary figure, engrossed in thought.

Ironically, Republicans on Capitol Hill were the very ones who demanded

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sanctioning of a government raid on the Branch Davidian sect in Waco. Texas, in 1993, leaving 80 members of the cult dead, had caused a sharp partisan call for her dismissal.

But her ability since to remain above the fray of scandal has restored many Americans' faith in justice. Described by Time magazine as the "loneliest woman in Washington", Ms Reno remains a force Mr Clinton cannot

☐ Drug chief quits: David Kessler, commissioner at the Food and Drug Administration and the most outspoken critic of the tobacco industry. announced his resignation, despite White House attempts to keep him in place. Mr Kessler, who first made moves to classify nicotine as a drug last year, sent tobacco stocks soaring with

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Justice truly blind China at Alabama court of sightless judge

THE TIMES THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28 1996

stomped out of Judge Tony Cothren's courthouse in Besse mer, Alabama, feeling they had wasted their time. The couple had claimed they were underprivileged. The fella came in hobbling like an old man and his woman was wearing the oldest, dirtiest clothes she owned," recalled the judge laughing, "Didn't do Duchess of de them no good, of course."

Judge Cothren is blind the first sightless judge in Alabama, a state where until the 1960s many blacks strug-gled to get justice because people were judged on what they could see, particularly skin colour. With Judge Cothren, justice is truly blind. The judge is also notable for

being a Republican, which in a traditionally Democrat state has ensured him a bumpy first few months on the bench. In Jefferson County Circuit Court this week in this forlorn.



original blind judge

Birmingham, Judge Cothren heard a stream of domestic disputes. He dispensed justice with a God-fearing rigour, fixing his glaucoma-ridden eyes on those who stood before him amid the wreckage of their lives. To see him in action was a strangely powerful experience.

The original "Blind Judge", er, involved in a family dis-

Street magistrate Sir John Fielding, was reputed to know scores of London footpads Judge Cothren, 47, shares that gift for vocal recognition, but the voices he hears are the drawls of troubled Alabamans. Bessemer's crime rate is one of America's worst.

Judge Cothren; too, speaks with a slow, Southern delivery that lends sympathy to his verdicts is a steely selfdiscipline and a demand for individual responsibility. A divorcing couple, accompanied by the woman's mother, were rebuked for failing to put their small children first. want those little girls in church every Sunday," ordered the judge. "Yes, your honour." the trio mumbled. transfixed by his big frame and loosided stare.

An out-of-work house paint-

pute, tried to argue with the firm-jawed dignity of a simple court. Judge Cothren returned man wrongly accused. "Somehis barrage with interest. times, to see the sorrow can be What I'm sayin to you is wrong influence," he said. this," he thundered. And the "Colleagues tell me there is nothing harder than looking man quelled. Over a lunchtime sandwich, into the tears of a woman and he accepted sight can influtelling her that her home must

ence a judge — the witness who sweats and fingers his Blind eyes still shed tears, collar, for instance, or the and the judge, sightless for 40

years, has been wounded by his opponents. "But I don't intend to let them beat me," he said. His example to other blind people has been much hailed There are only two things I would not want a blind person to do, and that's work on my brain or fly my airplane. Doggone it, we're just normal folks."

Tony Cothren, the circuit court judge who metes out blind justice in Jefferson County, Alabama. He says a

'sixth sense" helps him to determine the truthfulness of witnesses as they testify before him

Normal, but sometimes extraordinary. Recently, a woman raised her right hand to take the oath, and left it swaying in the air. "Okay, ma'am, you can lower your hand now," said the judge. For the rest of her testimo ny, the witness kept shooting glances at the judge, wonder ing what else he could see.

Baseball clubs end four-year squabble

OWNERS of major league baseball clubs reluctantly accepted a collective bargaining agreement yesterday which finally ended four years of internecine conflict in the

In a drastic reversal of their rejection only three weeks earlier, the owners paved the way for inter-league play. unprecedented revenue sharbetween rich and poor clubs, and a search for a baseball commissioner.

The four-year agreement still to be accepted by the players at a meeting in Puerto Rico next week, would also impose a luxury tax on club payrolis and allow baseball stars to become unrestricted free agents in the event of any

Trouble began in 1992 when owners forced the then commissioner to resign and started a war with the players' union by advocating a salary cap. The result was a 234-day players' strike and a devastat-

Simpson juror kicked out into Hollywood limelight

By QUENTIN LETTS

Gandhi roling,

AN ASPIRING actress and sometime television series "bikini girl" was booted off the O.J. Simpson case jury after failing to convince the judge that she was taking her duties

Ann-Marie Jamison, who promptly left the courthouse to tousle her hair in front of massed television cameras, denied that she was treating the case as a career-boosting lark. I tried to be a fair and impartial juror," she said, after a change of outfit and a check to make sure that her

profile was just right. Hiroshi Pujisaki, the Superior Court Judge who is supervising the wrongful death suit court case against Mr Simpson, lost his patience with the blonde honey-tanned Miss

said Judge Fujisaki, a brisk. ascetic man who is making a very different fist of this case from the lenient Judge Ito, who ran the Simpson murder

It was not the first impropriety from Miss Jamison, a sometime jewellery sales as-



looks older, but acts younger. During prosecution evidence she giggled when a lawyer referred to some Bruno Magli footwear as "ugly-ass shoes".

In the early stages of the case she was caught passing sweets to fellow jurors, and on another day she arrived wearing a T-shirt with the slogan "it's Hallowe'en! Care to go

bump in the night?" Judge Fujisaki, announcing his decision to forego any future contribution from the skittish iuror, said: "It is entirely likely that the public in general would lose confidence in the judicial process." For Miss Jamison, banishment from the courthouse was a silver-lined cloud. In Hollywood, you grab opportunity wherever it passes. She has become an instant "name"

Florida sets **free 500** criminals

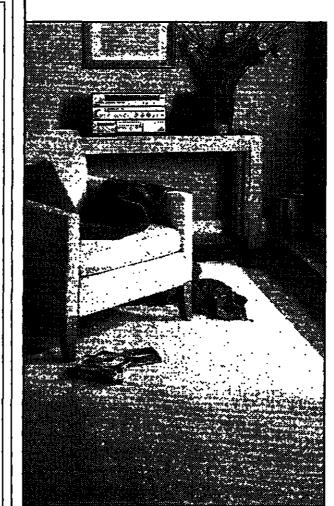
Florida's nastiest criminals after a court ruled that their sentences should be reduced for good behaviour (Our Correspondent writes).

The mass release of assorted killers, rapists and street toughs caused an outcry. Some Floridians feared that "sunshine state" — a popular holiday destination for tourists — will suddenly become a more dangerous

place. Opponents of the release tried but failed to have it delayed before the matter was considered by the US Supreme Court. Instead, a state court ruled that the prisoners must be released under the provisions of a former good-behaviour rule.

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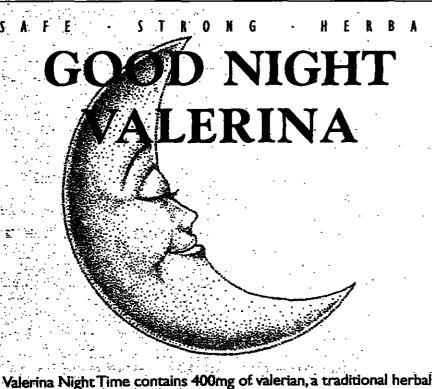
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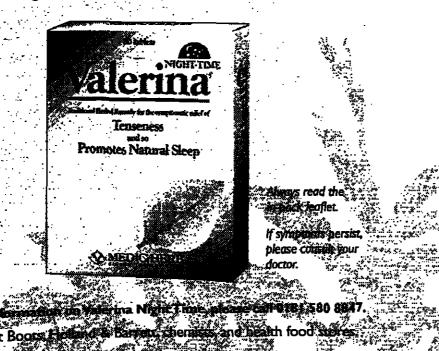
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BODY AND MIND



Dr Thomas Stuttaford on why an obsession with constipation costs taxpayers a fortune; good news for wellrounded women; Kawasaki disease; how vitamins can help patients with angina

The natural way to stay healthy

reported this week that some mineral waters con-tained so much magnesium sulphate that they could be as laxative as a solution of Epsom salts.

The laxative action of mineral water should cause no surprise, for in earlier times mineral waters owed their popularity to their effect on the bowels. It is only recently that most patients and their doctors have not been obsessive in wanting a daily bowel action, and therefore inner

Even now, in some sections of society, colonic irrigation on a regular basis is considered necessary to supplement nature. The NHS drugs bill also shows that an appreciable proportion of the community consider that they have such severe constipation that it represents a clinical

In a report in Prescriber Magazine Dr Kieran Moriarty and Dr Nuala O'Donoghue have analysed the public's demand for laxatives, and the present medical approach to constipation. Despite a more enlightened attitude to the bowels, the number of prescriptions paid for by the NHS has nearly doubled in the past ten years, constipation now costs the taxpayer more than £50 million a year. Many more bottles of laxative medicine are bought over the counter

without a prescription. People who are worried, but not so worried about their bowel movements that they need to take medically prescribed pills and potions, go to considerable trouble to keep regular by eating bran and other bulk forming foods. There are other naturally occurring substances as well as bran which will draw fluid

which is made from mucilaginous gum, has a strong following, whereas others swear by Ispaghula husk, Fybogel, and methylcellulose in the form of Celevac.

Choosing a higher fibre diet by eating, for instance, more baked beans, fruit, vegetables and wholemeal bread has much the same affect on the guts as some laxatives. It has the advantage that it is entirely natural, but the disadvantage that it can cause excessive wind and abdom-

It is common for patients to be, quite rightly, concerned about a change in bowel habits, only for their fear to be allayed once it has become obvious that the change coincided with a sudden enthusiasm for high

Nor is it unusual to be consulted about constipation when in fact it is a consequence of nothing more sinister than a failure to drink ample

onstipation means different things to different people, but generally patients use the term to describe infrequent and irregular "evacuations". In medical parlance the diagnosis of simple constipation excludes this symptom when it is secondary to any other problem, whether this is a rare disease such as porphyria, which

afflicted King George III, or various congenital abnormalities of the gut.

More commonly, irritable bowel syndrome and diverticulosis, are associated with constinution, but the possibility of a malignancy in the colon must always be considered when this symptom is present. In some cases constipation is secondary



Curves like Monroe's are fashionable again - and they can also be a sign of good health and long life

to drugs taken to treat other conditions. The treatment of simple constipation is necessary if the patient is suffering pain, or if they have underlying conditions which would be damaged by straining when going to the lavatory. Patients who have had a heart attack or stroke need to be spared excessive physical exertion which might accompany defecation. Others who suffer from chronic neurological diseases, such as multi-

ple scierosis, may also need laxatives as a preventative, as do some elderly

In its various forms senna has been a much prescribed laxative, and it is still favoured by obstetricians as constipation is a frequent complication of pregnancy. The senna was such a regular treatment 60 to 70 years ago that when my father moved house the first patient to see him after the move presented him with a senna

important Other people take excessive quanti-

tree. Some patients become hooked

on laxatives. Parents are blamed for

this as the habit is thought to be laid

down in childhood if the need for a

daily bowel movement during the

nursery years has been considered

ties of laxatives in order to lose weight their overuse can give rise to all the problems associated with

Panorama starts a scare among GPs

THE Panorama programme on Kawasaki disease has caused strife among family doctors. The Royal College of General Practitioners has recommended that any GP treating a child with Kawasaki disease-like symptoms should call in a consultant paediatrician. Doctors have written to Doctor magazine, claiming the policy would result in "thousands and thousands" of children being admitted to hospital

unnecessarily. Kawasaki disease was first described in Japan 30 years ago. Although rare it is fatal in 2 per cent of patients, who

are usually aged between two months and five.

Kawasaki disease starts with flu-like symptoms, usually with a temperature of about 102F. The patient develops a rash like that of scarlet lever, which is most pronounced over the trunk and abdomen, particularly around the genitalia. The patient has a dry mouth, sore throat, swollen neck glands, bright red tongue and peeling skin. The child may complain of swollen, painful joints. Less commonly, the patient may have jaundice and pneumonia.

The most serious aspect of the disease is a polyarteritis, inflammation of the arteries. Patients can die of a heart attack, or inflammation of the heart muscle. Heart attacks may not occur until several years later. Standard treatment is heavy doses of aspirin.

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r Tim Spector and Dr Kathy Samaras of the Twins Researth Unit at St Thomas' Hospital, London, have cheered countiess women who have nicely rounded figures with amply devel-oped breasts, bottoms and

thighs.
Their research has shown that the traditional feminine shape of Marilyn Monroe and Sophia Loren is healthier — and more often associated with longevity — than the fashionable stick-like figure. or even an athletic build. The fundamental lesson

learnt from the research into obesity is that fat stored around the waistline leads to an increased risk of high blood pressure, diabetes and heart disease. whereas when it is carried around the thighs, bottoms and breasts it is not associated with these diseases. The plain-

tive cry of the curvaceous woman that she can never lose the fat from her thighs is misplaced, as storing fat in this way may be lifesaving. Fat stored around the waist is much more mobile and, when in transit in the blood stream, has the opportunity to damage the blood vessels.

One conclusion from the work at St Thomas' is that the tendency of men to carry their weight in the midline a "beer belly" — is one of the reasons why they have tradi-tionally had a higher incidence of heart problems. Post-menopausal women now have a similar rate of heart disease to men, but women in this age group are also likely to have an expanding waistband. A committee of doctors

have recently been studying

guidelines have been endorsed by the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh and reported in the British Medical Journal.

Their approved guidelines for weight loss anticipates research at St Thomas' and suggests that neither sex should be encouraged to feel they have to be svelte.

An overweight patient's first aim should be to stop putting on weight, then lose modest amounts in short dieting sessions. After some weight has been lost the diet should be temporarily re-

laxed so that the body can readjust itself before dieting is resumed. The usual medisex should cal advice is to aim to lose not more than 2lb in a

The Scottish doctors also sugeest that treatment has to be directed at the whole family household eating

patterns may cause all of the members to be overweight. One very controversial recommendation is that it can be medically desirable to use appetite suppressants in the long term. For many years it has been thought that suppressants should not be used for more than three months at a time for fear of inducing addiction and affecting the

general health. Suppressants should be avoided in patients who have a history of epilepsy, or in those who are taking some forms of antidepressant. All appetite-suppressant drugs affect the sleep pattern. It is not certain whether it is this characteristic which can worsen symptoms of depres-sion, or schizophrenia, or whether it is a feature of the drug itself.

Fatty food may trigger angina

MANY years ago my dentist told me that the amount of fat in his diet affected his angina. If the dentist had taken cream with his porridge, followed by bacon and eggs and butter on his toast, it required only a mildly irritating patient to induce chest tightness and a ain down his left arm. Con versely, a breakfast of equal calorific value but low in fat allowed him to see the most troublesome of patients with-out a twinge. We discussed the possibility that his symptoms represented a description of post-prandial angina. but he insisted that it was fat

which gave him chest pain. A recent report in Doctor Aagazine, years after his death, provides support for the dentist's observations. Researchers at the University of

Maryland medical centre in Baltimore gave volunteers a 900-calorie meal, 50 per cent of which was saturated fat. Their blood vessels' ability to dilate after the meal were

reduced by 70 per cent. When the volunteers took a gram of vitamin C and 800 internabefore a high fat meal, this reduction was 17 per cent. ... The dentist was right. Fat was inhibiting the capability

of his coronary arteries to dilate. The amount of supplementary vitamins taken in pill form is greater than could be derived from orange juice or other vitamin-rich dietary sources. The Maryland research is further exidence that it is worthwhile for patients with angina to take additional

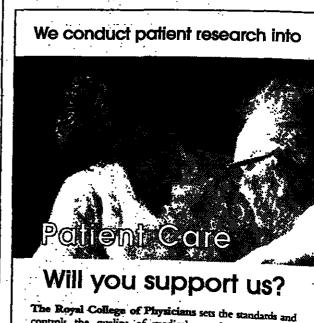


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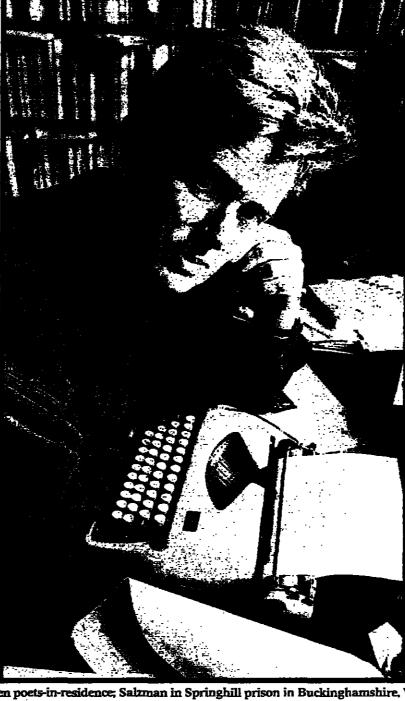


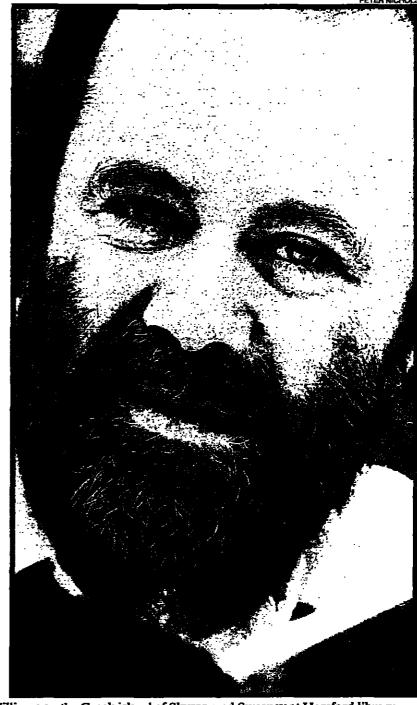
ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIAMS 11 St Andrews Place, London NW1 41E THE TIMES THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28 1996

it the

From a garret to a steady job







Eva Salzman, Hugo Williams, centre, and Matthew Sweeney have all been poets-in-residence; Salzman in Springhill prison in Buckinghamshire, Williams on the Greek island of Skyros, and Sweeney at Hereford library

The romantic image of the lonely, starving poet has been replaced by a more practical one, where

never tired of remind-~ful, internalised lives. their work affording them little opportunity for social interaction, let alone exotic travel. At least, that was true. in his mid-forties. Larkin, who made only two

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entire adult life, wrote to a friend: "As far as I am concerned, absolutely nothing has happened for about 12 years. and not much for 25 years."

But since Larkin's death, in 1985, the caricature image of the poet struggling alone in a damp bedsit and with nothing but a crust of bread between him and starvation has been replaced by an entire poetic industry, with some of the glamour of say, Shelley or Byron returning in the form of lucrative residencies in exotic climes. Few poets, though, are as fortunate as young Daniel Wilson, 21, the enterprising student recently offered the post of national poet on the South Pacific island of Kiribati after he wrote a 12-line poem celebrating the republic's archipelago in Micronesia. A drama student, Wilson has been offered his own beachside hut, where he will spend next summer writing lauda-

tory verses about the island's Hugo Williams, whose most recent book of poems, Dock Leaves; is published by Faber. writes a column in The Times Literary Supplement about his adventures as a travelling poet. His life is the obverse of Larkin's lonely provincialism: he goes abroad constantly, his glamorous wife Hermine is a ightrope-walker, and he spends two weeks each summer teaching creative writing

a regular income and contact with the outside world is regarded as idyllic. Jason Cowley reports at the Skyros Centre on the

The centre offers "personal development holidays for the mind, body and spirit. As enjoys the peculiar disjunction between his nine-strong writer's group and the 60 or so psychotherapy students living and eating together at the centre. "It's an odd but wonderful experience," he says. "While I teach poetry in one room, Tantric sex

and all sorts of unusual things are going on in the Strange things happen to him. He

remembers, for-instance, a gestalt therapist at the centre attempting to impersonate him at a party. The therapist, dressed to look like the poet, and speaking

parody of one of his poems: "I they don't want me."

laughing. So I gave the therapist a V-sign. He was deeply offended and later wrote to me to say that impersonating me was something he had always wanted to do; he wasn't doing it for fun."

Greek island of Skyros.

room.

teach in one

Tantric sex is going on in another'

want my mummy/i want my daddy/i want my teddy/But Williams says the parody captured perfectly his own self-deprecating, inverted ar-rogance. When he stopped reading everyone in the room looked at me and burst out

On another occasion, an or coming to the end of long

cused Williams of not approving of emotion in poetry. Naturally, he disputed her claim. They ended up retiring

debated, flirted. Then the course director pointed out that the staff directive forbade teaching staff to have sexual relationships with participants". Williams, who had only given the directory a

perfunctory glance, says: "The large print giveth, the small print tak-. While I eth away." Eva Salzman,

who is published by Bloodaxe and Oxford University Press, has just completed two years as poet-in-residence at Springhill and Grendon prisons in Buckingham-

shire. She applied for the residency, funded by the Arts exactly like him, got up on council, because of her fasci-stage and read out an ironic nation with prisons, convents nation with "prisons, convents and monasteries — places where people are operating

outside society". She spent two and a half days a week at the prisons, staying overnight in a local bed and breakfast, although she received, she says, "plenty of offers from the men to stay overnight in the prison. As well as leading poetry workshops, she produced a magazine and a short film, written, acted and directed by the

Most of the inmates were either white-collar criminals,

Grendon, where serious sex offenders are held, to use the library and other research with criminals, she says: "I think I needed more protection from some of the staff, several of whom were an absolute

There was, though, an uncomfortable moment when, working late one evening, she was locked in the education department with one of the prisoners. "As I called out to the other inmates to inform the guards, the prisoner shouted out Take your time. Luckily, he was only joking. At least, I think he was."

atthew Sweeney, the Irish poet whose col-Cacti (Secker) and the forthcoming The Bridal Suite (Cape), is considering writing a poem about Jack Charlton after meeting him while he was serving as poet-in-residence at Hereford library. Big Jack was having his photograph taken in front of a stuffed fish.

"As a supporter of the Irish football team I was naturally keen to meet Charlton,"
Sweeney says. "So I approached him. 'Hi, did you
catch that?' I asked, pointing at the fish. Jack nodded. I told him I was from Ireland; he asked whereabouts. I'd heard that Jack didn't know where the Irish-born players in his squad were from, so I said: "From Packie Bonner's [the Irish goalkeeper] county.' He said: 'So that be Donegal, then. What do you do?' I told

him. "He said: 'I saw this poet, Seamus Heaney, on television in Ireland the other night. He wasn't much good but the crowd seemed to like him.' I pointed out that Heaney was indeed highly thought of. Jack said: 'Is that so? What are you doing here? I said: 'I'm doing what you do on the training ground, practising technique. Then he asked to sit in on one

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ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE mare st london 88 48a. of my surgeries. But the photographers would not let him go. What a shame: it could have been the start of a beautiful friendship.

illustrate how residences can inspire creativity, as well as

dences also provide a stable

Living as a poet can be lonely and precarious. If you rn a living out of the house — you have to be prepared to learn how to bring poets into contact with read your work in front of an a delight to be so busy."

audience, conduct workshops and take up residences. Last year I was poet-in-residence for 15 months at the South Bank Centre in London and it sional poet ever gets to a regular job and income. It was

have dismayed Philip Larkin. a reluciant, though diligent, librarian. He hated work, likening it in one poem to a toad that swells to fill the gaps in our empty lives. But today's poets appear to regard a regular income (and, no doubt, a skilled accountant to thing akin to a romantic dream. Whatever happened to Byronic rebellion?

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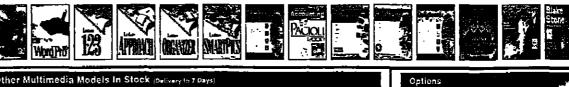
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Closing a window on **America**

Magnus Linklater laments the

end of the Harkness ideal

uietly, and with no formai announcement, an excellent British-American institution is coming to an end. The Harkness Fellowships, which for more than 70 years have given people in Britain the opportu-nity to spend time in the United States, absorbing the culture and conventions of the American way of life, are being scrapped in favour of a programme tailored to "doniestic priorities in the USA". It is a great loss. The idea was born out of the sort of genuine. disinterested philanthropy, the benefits of which can never be accurately measured, but it has probably done more to improve understanding between two cultures than any amount of trumpeting about a

special relationship.

The list of former Harkness Fellows is remarkable for its diversity: politicians such as Peter Brooke and Jack Ashley, civil servants including Sir Douglas Wass and Howard Davies, and the businessmen Roger Salmon, who carried out the rail franchising programme, and Lord Runciman of Duxford. There were writers and journalists too: Wil-liam Shawcross, Alastair Burnet, Hugo Young, Hugh

Stephenson, Bridget Kendall, Julia Neuberger, Bamber Gascoigne: the architect Terry Farrell, the lawyer Lord Lester of Herne Hill, and, reaching further back, that icon of Anglo-American relations, Alistair Cooke.

They were chosen by assessors of the stature of Oliver Franks, Noel Annan and Isa-iah Berlin, simply on the basis that they were talented enough to bring back something of value, both for themselves and

All of the hundreds of fellows benefited from an extraordinary luxury: two years spent travelling in America, studying at different universities, learning about American politics or business - anything, as its British director William Plowden once said. from "Cajun music to management techniques". Hugo Young described it as "a better education than Oxford", and one that stayed with him for 30 years. The fellows had an enviable freedom to plan their own programmes, and were not expected to produce anything as taxing as a report at the end of it. Their contribution to transatlantic relations was, in

effect, themselves. My father. Eric Linklater. who was one of the earliest recipients, in 1929, travelled from coast to coast with, among others. Dick White. who went on to head MIo. He described it as "two years of liberty in the vast morning of America", and his novel Juan in America was the comic endproduct of an odyssey across the continent at a time when

Calvin Coolidge was President and Al Capone ruled Chicago. In 1990, the Commonwealth Fund, which administers the fellowships, decided that they should be cut back to a year and aimed principally promising young people in mid-career who might be judged the leaders of the

future. Their work pro-grammes were more carefully focused", and there was a new concentration on the professions. Nevertheless, the scheme contiued to be invaluable to both countries. One of those who benefited was David Bell, who went on to become chief education officer for Newcastle-on-Tyne. 'The value from a professional perspective", he wrote, "is that it allows one to see this country through the eyes of another system." Americans welcomed the Brits who crossed the Atlantic in rather thesame way as Rhodes Scholars were appreciated at British universities. So much so that to mark President Clinton's visit to Britain in 1994, John Major announced the establishment of the Atlantic Fellowship, a sort of Harkness-in-reverse for rising American stars.

Now, however, the Hark-ness vision has been sacrificed to the gods of political correctness and the American domestic programme. Instead of cross-cultural fertilisation, the Harkness will in future be restricted to specialists in healthcare, who will be judged on whether they have anything to contribute to American programmes such as "Bet-

The liberal

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tering the Health of Minority Americans" and "Advancing the Wellbeing of Elderly People The changes rule out anything of more general interest, such as public management, crimjustice

even education. The Harkness concept has, in effect, died.

The reason is not financial. The Commonwealth Fund, established in 1918 by Anna Harkness, a wealthy New Yorker whose family had come originally from Lanarkshire and whose wealth flowed from oil, remains immensely rich. Mrs:Harkness decreed simply that it be used for "the common good", and her son Edward, who set up the fellowships, insisted that they should enhance the lives of those chosen and improve understanding between the two countries.

The new changes, which decree that the 1997-98 fellowships will be the last of their kind, stem from a view in New York that the fund's resources should be used to benefit American needs rather than British careers. Some see this as an example of growing American isolationism, but it looks as if it has more to do with a hard-headed approach to funding which seeks to quantify gain and measure achievement, rather than leaving it to chance and the hazard

of human nature. Do they really believe that an approach to learning which aims to enrich rather than to shape a career has become irrelevant? Perhaps, as the Harkness directors argue, there are other opportunities for young British hopefuls to criss-cross the Atlantic, But I cannot help feeling that we are losing something important. This may indeed be the age of the specialist, but to anyone of vision and ambition, the free dom to roam "the vast morning of America remains a priceless opportunity.



Small print, big stakes

John Redwood urges Kenneth Clarke

to protect our economic autonomy

leagues will be negotiating momentous issues at the European Council of Finance Ministers on Monday. They will discuss how the budgets of member states joining the single currency will be controlled and a new exchange-rate mechanism for the countries outside the European single currency. They will discuss addi-tional powers allowing the European Union to coordinate, monitor and strongly influence the budgetary positions of all member states. They will discuss a completely new single currency to replace the ecu of the

The Chancellor and his col-

original treaty.

It has always been my wish that
Britain should have an important influence on these debates. I know few who wish to see the United Kingdom storm out and refuse to negotiate. I know of no one who wishes us to marginalise ourselves. As one of the principal contributors to the EU budget it is important that Britain speak with a strong and clear voice about what we want for ourselves and about what system would be best for our partners. The debate this week in Parliament has not been between those who want us to have nothing to do with it and those who wish us to influence it. The debate has been about how we can best exert influence and what kind of influence it should be.

The Council's regulation strengthening the surveillance and co-ordination of budgetary positions has caused concern. The official European line is that there is nothing to worry about. We are told that we and other countries already provide figures so that the EU can monitor developments. We are told that this new regulation is in the same spirit. Britain should ask why it is necessary to strengthen budgetary surveillance and co-ordination of countries not inside the single currency. If all that this regulation proposes is what we are doing already, then there is no need for it at all. If the idea is that stronger surveillance and co-ordination are needed only for those joiing the single currency, then the docu-

ment should make that clear. It would be possible for the European Court to rule against a state outside the single currency and to impose a fine for failing to meet the requirements of the convergence and budgetary programmes. Recital 13 says: "It will also be necessary to make similar rules covering the

programmes and surveillance of the other member states." If those outside the euro are to be free of any additional burdens, why do we need this recital at all? Wouldn't it be wisest for the British Government to urge that this recital be struck out, so as to do not want a weaker currency.

confirm the assurances that Brussels will not seek to control our economy by the back door? The document on a new exchange-rate mechanism warns that "the Council and Commission would exploit to the maximum the surveillance procedures provided for under Article 103 of the treaty". It sets out a requirement for

economic and budget plans to meet Enforcing new EU's needs. states would have to show contracts in how they were going to conform. A euros might should say: "No adprovoke a host ditional requireof legal imposed on those member states who challenges decide not to join

the single currency." This would prevent the European Court of Justice imposing sanctions on our eco-

Member

ments will

nomic management.

The Council regulations on speeding up and clarifying the implementations of the excessive deficit procedure should also apply only to those joining the single currency. To put this beyond doubt, words to this effect should be included expressly in Article 1. To the statement that "this regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all member states" should be added the words "which have joined the single

The proposed secondary legislation for the introduction of the euro raises issues of grave legal importance. The Treaty of Maastricht made quite clear the intention of the EU to introduce the ecu as a currency. It did not choose the ecu as a "generic name", as some are now trying to suggest. The EU has put a lot of effort into promoting the use of the ecu. issuing ecu instruments and instructing businesses dealing with it to use

the ecu in such transactions.

Unfortunately, the ecu has continuously fallen in value against the mark. This has led German politicians to fear an even bigger backlash from the German people, faced with abolition of their currency. Germans

The decision to "rename" the currency the "euro" is more fundamental than a mere change of name. It represents a complete change of tack on how the single currency is to be brought about. The original idea was to narrow and narrow the trading bands of the exchange-rate mechanism until the currencies were closely aligned. It

was then to be a relatively easy step to replace the individual trading cur-rencies by a basket of them, the ecu. The ecu basket was based on most of the members states' currencies, weighted by their national incomes. It was a carefully contrived

plan, built up over many years. It was effectively destroyed by the collapse of the exchange-rate mechanism.

The regulations now put forward are an attempt to make the euro legal when there is no basis for its introduction in any treaty. Article 2 makes clear the scope of the change: "As from 1999 every reference in a legal instrument to ecu as referred to in Article 109G of the treaty and as defined in council regulation EC No 3320/94 is replaced by a reference to the euro at a rate of one euro to one ecu." The regulation repeals the offending Council regulation that defines the ecu, because the EU fears that people might continue to use it or calculate it. One of the recitals to the document states: "The ecu will cease to be defined as a basket component of currencies on the First

of January 1999." Britain should point out that while this regulation can legalise all con-tracts within the EU, it cannot apply beyond the 15 member states. Recital S reveals the legal confusion at the heart of the new currency when it states: "Explicit confirmation of the principle of continuity will also contribute to the recognition of continuity of contracts in the jurisdiction of third countries." The truth is that compulsorily replacing contracts in marks, francs and even pounds with euro contracts on the basis of a regulation directly applicable only to the 15 member states may result in legal challenges around the world. European lawyers are beginning to worry that they will need similar regulations in every major jurisdiction around the world in order to regularise the contractual position outside the EU.

There is another more fundamental issue, concerning democracy. If the member states had wanted a currency called the euro and had not wanted to carry on with the basket currency, they would have said so in the Maastricht treaty. That treaty had to be approved and ratified by referendums in countries such as, France and Denmark, and by strong more Londoners visit London museparliamentary scruting in Britain.
This new regulation — if it goes ahead - will receive little or no attention in most member states, and yet it is a crucial revision to the single currency scheme. The correct legal and democratic way to proceed would be to amend the treaty.

Jurisdictions outside the Community are more likely to accept the legality of the euro if the treaty has been properly amended. As long as the big gap remains between what the treaty says and what the regulations say, there is scope for lawyers outside Europe to stir up complaints among those who think they have lost out from compulsory conversio from the mark or franc to the euro.

Britain should insist that the EU impose no new obligations on countries that do not join the single currency. The current scheme for stabilising economies inside the single currency would impose new obligations, so we should propose changes. And because the legal uncertainty around the euro is so great, we should insist that if the EU wishes to change its single currency scheme so comprehensively, it must do so by treaty amendment and not by backstairs regulation. Britain has a very strong hand in all this. Our financial expertise is respected. We have a veto over two of these proposals. We must use it constructively to protect our national interest. We owe it to our partners to limit the damage to countries joining the single currency.

The case, for free museums

Isabel Carlisle

on the price we pay for entry fees

ow that the pattern of gov-ernment allocation of funds to national museums and galleries has been revealed for the next financial year, it is clear that the Government intends to end the principle of free admission. The Budget figures show that grants for museums which already charge for entry either remain unchanged or have increased. Free museums, on the other hand, have sustained big cuts: the British Museum grant is down by £1.3 million. Its trustees meet on December 7 to discuss entry fees, among other solutions to its financial plight. Other bastions of free entry—the National Gallery, the Tate Gallery and the National Portrait Gallery - are clearly being pressed to introduce charges.

How apathetic it is to greet this as inevitable; and how wrong-headed to say that all those great continental collections charge for entry — the Louvre, the Uffizi, the Rijksmuseum — and ask why it shouldn't happen here. Across Europe, museums and galleries have become predominantly tourist attractions: the taxpayers don't use their local museums, tourists do. The visitors are no longer

owners, they are customers. Our free museums are different. When they were founded (the British Museum was the first, in 1753) it was intended that through free access everyone would have the chance to build that special relationship with the collections that comes only through frequent visits. Gifts of paintings, antiquities, African sculp-ture and much else were made on the understanding that the museums were free and would remain so.

Free access means that people visit their local and national collections and visit them often. Of visitors to the Tate_40 per cent come from abroad, 40 per cent from outside London. The remaining 20 per cent are from Lon-don itself, and very many are frequ-ent visitors. National Gallery visitors are roughly half-and-half. British residents and foreign visitors, with the highest proportion of nationals to visit any picture collection in Europe. This is not to say that tourists don't visit our national collections. They do; and they come in very large numbers because our museums are world-class and they are free. But far is than Parisians visit t or Piorentines visit the Uffizi.

The solution to the present crisis does not lie entirely with the Treasury. There is no doubt that muse ums should be trying to raise as much money as they can to supplement their grants-in-aid. Charging, however, makes this much more difficult. With an estimated drop of around 50 per cent in visitors on the introduction of charging, it is uncertain whether in the long run there is a real financial gain. (The V&A had 1,733,300 visitors in 1985; after the introduction of voluntary charges that year, numbers fell to 916,500 in 1987.) Fewer visitors mean a loss in revenue to shops and restaurants within the museums.

useums would also lose gifts from sponsors and patrons. In 1992, Sir Joseph Hotung gave £2 million for the large gallery of Oriental art named after him in the British Museum because it has free entrance. Heinz Berggruen gave his Seurat oil sketches, worth £7-£10 million, to the National Gal-lery earlier this year because it has free entrance.

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Further revenue would be lost by museums because it becomes untenable to charge separately for temporary exhibitions if there is already an entrance charge to get into a museum (as the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York discovered). Sponsorship for exhibitions is also harder to attract with fewer visitors. Divide the figure for a museum's grant-in-aid by the number of visitors and you will find that the figures for government subsidy per head in museums that charge as opposed to those that are free shows a dramatically less efficient use of taxpayers' money. At the moment the cost per visitor is £4.50 at the National Gallery. E5.35 at the British Museum and £6 at the Tate, as against £17 at the Natural History Museum and £25.50 at the V&A.

If we don't think it matters that musems are forced into charging, that paintings may no longer be a universally available source of visual solace or pleasure or learning, or spiritual food in an age of declining religious belief, then what has happened to us as a nation? Is it part of our moral malaise that the great British national inheritance of regular free access to museums is no longer an urgent political issue? The Labour Party says it supports the principle of free entry, but has published no detailed proposals on the subject. The Conservatives profess to believe in extending access, but their policy of cutting grants and forcing entry charges seems likely to have the opposite effect.

During the last war, more than 12,000 people came to see Borticelli's Mystic Nativity in just 18 days, when, risking destruction in the Blitz, it was brought back to the National Gallery as Picture of the Month. It is just one example of the special relationship that the British public has with its P·H·S collections. We are very close to seeing that relationship destroyed.

Duty done

WEALTH and age have done little to diminish Baroness Thatcher's eye for a bargain, as she showed at the House of Lords' gift shop yesterday lunchtime. She was buying a couple of cases of Scotch, to be sent out as Christmas presents, when she spotted that the bottles at £12.75 each — had not been reduced by 26p, as the Chancellor decreed they should be in Tuesday's Budget. Her privet hair quivering, she demanded the discount

"This is old stock," pleaded the staff. "We cannot reduce the tax once it has been put on." That's your problem." replied Lady T. You can claim it back. Get on to the Treasury, if you must, call the Chancellor's office and tell them I'm causing merry hell. You're

trying to overcharge me."
Enter Mr Bibbiani, Superintendent of the Refreshment Department: "It is not our policy to reduce tax on old stock," he said tersely, "but because of the size of Lady Thatcher's order, we decided to take off the 26p on each bottle as a nice gesture. We did not do it because it was Lady Thatcher . . . According to one onlooker, the

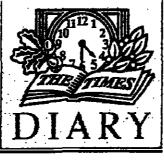
former Prime Minister looked

agitated, but "in a controlled sort of way". When she received her discount, however, a big "just retaken the Falklands" sort of smile spread wide across her face.

 Yesterdav's announcement of the engagement of the Earl of Ronaldshay, elder son of the Marquess of Zetland, to Heather Hoffman will have gone down particularly well at Clarence House. Ronaldshay is the supplier of sausages by appointment to the Queen Mother. He delivers them



That's the spirit



in person from his sausage company Musks, appearing at the tradesmen's entrance with his small package wrapped in wared paper. Apparently they go very well with Dubonnet.

Dance on

TEA DANCES on a Sunday are the latest subject of contention in the House of Lords. Nearly 200 years after the Sunday Observance Act of 1780 banned owners of salons from charging clients who want to dance on their premises, a Private Member's Bill is to be introduced to bring merriment to the floor of the House.

Leading with his feet is Viscount Astor, who will introduce the Bill. claimed by its supporters to rid Britain of the last vestige of the 1780 Act. "We now have betting on

a Sunday, shopping on a Sunday and flexible licensing hours on a Sunday," said one dance club owner. "We should also have dancing on a Sunday."

Lord Soper, a nonagenarian Methodist minister, is also behind the move. "I do not dance much myself, but I am of the opinion that any of the arts can be consecrated." he says. Though I draw the line at the cruder forms of jazz dancing. Too suggestive."

• Chaos at the Treasury yesterday after the Budget. Despite the excess of information prior to the



park – called Kent

"Member to watch".

remitting bravery." Close enough AFTER months of headscarves and ostentatious hat-wearing, Princess Caroline of Monaco. 39,

has come clean and is showing off

He reminded lunchers of an-

other award he once won, of which

he was inordinately proud. "I beat

O.J. Simpson years ago in a 60-

yard race," he reminisced. "It was

an act of quite remarkable and un-

round, and promises of refunds.

Swank swank



Graceful Caroline

her coot-hald head. She shaved it earlier this year to a slew of rumours that she might be receiving treatment for cancer or simply suffering from alopecia.

Now she is making a virtue of it. as in this photograph by François-Marie Banier, whose first collec-tion of photos. Past and Present, has just appeared. The pose gives a good show to Caroline's neck, a feature she shares with her mother, Grace Kelly.

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MORNING AFTER

When the Budget turns to councils, cuts and unaccountability

After the grandeur of the annual Budget comes the wrangling of its distribution. Recipients of largesse parade their ingratitude, claiming that the spending increase is in fact a cut. Those who have suffered real cuts in public spending wave their shrouds. Nowhere is this more apparent than in local government, whose division of the booty comes the morning after the day before.

Yesterday, as the ritual came round again, ir Jeremy Beecham, representing three -local authority associations, painted lurid pictures of potholed roads, children languishing in bed and breakfast hostels, and soaring class sizes. He predicted that council taxes would rise on average by 6 per cent, twice the rate of inflation, eating up most of the Chancellor's income tax cuts. inevitably, he blamed Mr Clarke: "People" have rumbled who is responsible for increasing levels of local tax every year. They accept that the burden on local authorities is not self-inflicted, and that the responsibility lies with central government."

Much as this must annoy ministers, it is substantially true. Seventeen years of gathering power to the centre have stripped local councils of authority, discretion and tax-raising responsibility. Central government now controls more than 80 per cent of town hall spending, compared with just 40 per cent as recently as 1984. Thus, if councils want more money, they have to increase the council tax proportionately by a factor of five times more than if they had total control of

Yet they do not even have the freedom to do what they want with the council tax. It is still capped — which perversely encourages high spending. Almost all councils now spend right up to the level of their cap. Moreover, capping has made a nonsense of local accountability. Local residents should be allowed to choose whether they want to pay high levels of council tax for better services, or the reverse. Any party that spent too much or wasted the money could be thrown out at the subsequent election.

In America, the freedom of states to raise their own money and experiment with new ideas has produced a ferment of policy initiatives. New thinking, whether on crime or education or inner-city revival, is quickly disseminated. What works in one state is adopted in others. When local governments become too free with taxpayers money, as in California in the 1970s, voters revolt.

Such diversity has been stamped out in Britain, much to the detriment of the political culture. For centralisation has a human cost too. Traditionally, party activists were drawn from the thriving pool of local politics. Many senior national politicians first started political life as councillors. Fewer party members can now be bothered to join organisations which have become so emasculated.

The result, as was evident yesterday, is that central government wins little of the credit for local successes, but shoulders most of the blame for their failures. Council tax goes up? Classes are too large? Libraries are shut? Blame John Gummer. The public perceives little difference between the uniform business rate, which is set centrally, and the council tax.

There is little prospect of improvement even if Labour were to win the election. After the poll tax and the council tax, the capping and phasing of the past few years, there is scant public acceptability for further reforms. For all its talk of reviving local civic government, Labour still intends to retain reserve powers in extreme cases" to cap the council tax. Its proposal to put a quarter of local councillors up for election each year would help to improve accountability. Directly elected mayors could restore a little local pride. But a substantial restoration of revenue-raising powers to councils would be anathema as much to Tony Blair as it was to Margaret Thatcher.

CHRISTIAN UNION

An historic moment for the churches of Europe

For more than 450 years Europe's Christians have been divided both between Roman Catholic and Protestant and among Protestants themselves. At many times that disunion has had bloody consequences. Even in peace the palpable fragmentation of Christ's One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church has served to weaken the t the Gospels: this has been especially so in a continent and a century where secularism has run rife, agnosticism taken root, atheism advanced, and the State has moved remorselessly into terrain once properly considered the domain of faith.

Today the Church of England is to endorse the Porvoo agreement, a mutual compact between the Anglican and Lutheran Churches of the British Isles and virtually all Nordic and Baltic nations. This will mark the most significant step towards reunification since the Reformation. The General Synod will first give its backing: then a formal signing will take place during a Eucharist at Westminster Abbey attended

by the Queen. The Porvoo declaration establishes a new ten-member Anglican-Lutheran alliance of churches stretching across Northern Europe from Iceland to Estonia. It holds out the promise of unparalleled co-operation between groups whose theological similarity has often been masked by differences in

organisational structure. This agreement is of sizeable practical as well as symbolic value. The denominations are pledged to welcome one another's members, to receive sacramental and other pastoral ministrations and to regard those baptised in any one national body as part of "their own congregation. Furthermore, those

who serve as bishop, priest, or deacon in one faith will be eligible to enter the ministry of any other Church covered by the Porvoo understanding. Since the Church of England suffers from a weak supply of clergy while many Scandinavian countries do not, the arrival of additional pastors from

The drive for greater ecumenicalism has not been easy. The issue is always controversial within Churches as well as across them. The various attempts made by Anglicans over the past 25 years to establish common cause with Methodists never reached full fruition. In the 1980s Archbishop Robert Runcie made enormous efforts to forge closer ties with the Roman Catholic and Orthodox faiths. While there was a valuable movement towards better mutual understanding, more ambitious plans for genuine convergence fell foul of doctrinal disputes. not least the question of women priests. By reaching out to the smaller but much more similar Lutheran Churches, a more practical approach has been taken and one that has already proved rewarding.

Porvoo should not, however, be seen as an alternative to wider reconciliation. That remains the objective, but church leaders have wisely recognised the need to build ecumenicalism block by block. A road to Rome cannot be built in a day. With the exceptions of Denmark and Latvia (temporary, we hope), the vast majority of Anglicans and Lutherans will be in common communion and community. In a Europe where practising Christians have come often to see themselves as a marginalised minority, the new unity signified by the Porvoo accord can only be a power for good.

OF MICE AND TUNA

Drastic measures for streetwise rodents

Gangs of youngsters rampage through the mingham's infestation knew what she grey concrete and steel city centre of Birmingham. The authorities are both annoyed and baffled: there appears to be no solution to the problem. Attempts to use both carrots and sticks to control the problem are plainly a failure. When offenders are caught, they are violent and difficult to handle. When imprisoned they suffer acute stress and occasionally die.

As with people, so with mice. The plague which afflicted Britain's proud second city was not of maladiusted human beings but of rodents. The mice who streamed through the cinemas, restaurants and shops of the Bull Ring Centre in Birmingham were so streetwise, canny and hard to catch that they may teach us useful things about the genetic evolution of the mouse, and perhaps about other species. Scientists have long known of the strong biological similarities between men and mice. One school of thought believes that a common ancestor of both species lived about 70 million years ago.

The mean mice of the Midlands perfectly illustrate "Red Queen" theories of evolution. Species and their genes evolve in a permanent race with rivals and enemies, developing protections and weapons against predators and competitors. The solution of one problem is always followed by a threat from another quarter. As the Red Queen tells Alice: "It takes all the running you can

do, to keep in the same place." The scientists charged with solving Birmeant: they must have begun to worry that the mice they were trying to eliminate had evolved to a point where the balance of power between human beings and mice had been permanently upset. Nothing seemed to work. A hapless postgraduate was set to work catching them; he caught only a handful and made an alarming discovery. Captured mice were such tautly-coiled urban guerrillas that they went frantic. Several died from the sheer stress of being confined. Mice at liberty bypassed the traps, would not touch poisonous bait or else ate it,

burped happily and suffered no ill-effects. The city mice were compared to "bumpkin" mice caught on Berkshire farms. The country cousins were not equipped to prosper in the urban jungle: they walked straight into the traps, are poisoned cereal and keeled over. The dilemma was finally solved by poisoning the one food the trapshy mice could not resist tuna fish. The scientific jury is still out on why they went for the item which features so frequently on the menus of health-conscious human beings. One expert speculates that their yen for protein may be traced back to a taste for cating rubbish outside hamburger joints.

Raiph Waldo Emerson said that the world would beat a path to the door of the man who made a better mousetrap. The days of springs, wire and morsels of cheese have gone for ever. Mousetrap designers these days need PhDs.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Challenge to Nato command system

From Field Marshal Lord Carver

Sir, The solution to the current disagreement between the US and France over the reorganisation of Nato's integrated commands (report, November 23) lies in the proposal which I have been advocating for several years. It is that all Nato's integrated commands should be abolished. They were not envisaged when the North Atlantic Alliance was originated, and not formed until some time after the treaty was signed.

Instead I propose that US forces stationed in Europe or its surrounding waters should be solely under US national command and that within the North Atlantic Alliance a European operational and training command should be formed, with subordinate land, air and naval commands, incorporating the forces of those European members of the Alliance who wished to join it.

It would be essential that Britain, France and Germany were members. The forces of those members of the Alliance who did not wish to join would remain under national command, associating themselves with it through the Alliance's military committee, whose chairman should alwavs be American.

The dismantlement of the Nato command system would not involve any alteration to the North Atlantic Treaty. Members of the Alliance would have to accept that, if their forces were involved in operations, in Europe or elsewhere, in which US forces also participated, they would have to operate under overall US command, whether through my proposed European Command or separately. This was the case in Korea and the

Gulf, is the case now in Bosnia, and would have been, in reality, if Nato had ever had to implement any of its emergency defence plans.

If members are involved in operations in which the US does not participate the European Command which I propose would provide the command element, backed if necessary by the sort of support from the US military infrastructure which is already proposed for a Nato combined joint task

I can see no reason why my proposal should not be acceptable to the US, to France and to other members of the Alliance, although no doubt HIM Government would shrink from the idea of anything that smacked of an independent European structure, even though it was within the North Atlantic Alliance

Yours truly, CARVER (Author, Tightrope Walking: British Defence Policy Since 1945, Hutchinson, 1992),

Hitting a wrong note From Captain P. R. D. Kimm,

Sir. Cardinal Ratzinger's condemnation on St Cecilia's Day of heavy metal (report, November 25) is particularly topical in Britain today, as we seek to reverse the trend to violence in our society and to control juvenile crime. One does not have to be a theologian to recognise that such "music"

breathes aggression and rebellion. Perhaps it takes a cardinal to say as much, for it would require great political courage to speak out against a culture with so large a following and against so powerful an industry.

On the other hand, the current vogue for plain chant and similar quiet music must not be forgotten, for it reveals a deep need in our hectic society for calm and tranquillity; and perhaps there are more votes "in green pastures and beside still waters" than might at first be thought.

Yours faithfully, PETER KIMM 69 New Brighton Road, Emsworth, Hampshire.

Tribute to Governor

From the Deputy Governor

Sir, It is misleading to suggest, as does your Diary (November 23), that the people of Bermuda "almost declared independence on account of [Lord Waddington's] governance here. HM Government's policy, which the Governor has always reflected, is that it is entirely up to the people of Bermuda to decide whether they want independence or not.

Bermuda did not "aimost declare independence" in the August 1995 referendum. In answer to the question, "Are you in favour of Independence for Bermuda?", 25.6 per cent voted "Yes" and 73.7 per cent voted "No".

In the interest of accuracy your readers might wish to be aware of the statement made in the House of Assembly by the Home Affairs Minister on November 15:

Lord Waddington is the best Governor we have had. He and his wife have been tremendous at supporting programmes in the private sector that have benefited this country and they have been tremendous in supporting Government and the Opposition. The Shadow Minister associated

himself with that statement. Yours faithfully, P. WILLIS. Deputy Governor's Office, Government House, Bermuda. November 25.

Implications of introducing charges for museum entry

From the Master of the Royal Armouries

Sir, I sympathise with the plight of the British Museum (Arts, November 6; letters. November 21, 25) and agree that it needs help, but it is not alone. All our national museums need assist-

The question of charging is a difficult one, but in the end, somehow, if we value museums we must pay for

Charges are made for admittance to all three sites on which the Royal Armouries operates, though on only one (Fort Nelson) does the income go to the museum. This allows us to operate (but only just) on a government sub-sidy of only about £1.20 per visitor. considerably below the British Muse-um's £5 to £5.50, which it claims makes it the cheapest after the National Gallery.

The important thing is not to bandy statistics about but to press for greater help for all our major museums to allow them better to serve their public and the whole community.

G. M. WILSON, Master of the Royal Armouries, Armouries Drive, Leeds, West Yorkshire.

From Professor E. C. Fernie, Director, Courtauld Institute of Art

Sir. The strongest argument for admission charges at the British Museum is the number of foreign visitors it attracts: while its contents make it the most quintessentially international of our great collections there is no overriding reason why British taxpayers should meet this particular charge.

In practice, however, it is impossible to distinguish such visitors from others, so that charges for them would mean charges for all, and the arguments against charges for citizens of this country are powerful and worthy

1. They will deter the less well off and the young, especially those not eligible for student concessions.

2. They will deter those who make short and frequent visits.

3. After the drop in donations and the

increase in administrative costs, the increase in income is likely to be

I urge the Trustees and those who supply their funding to reconsider the change of policy and to reaffirm the British Museum's primary role as a public educational resource.

Yours sincerely ERIC FERNIE Director

Courtauld Institute of Art, Somerset House, Strand, WC2. November 25.

From Mr Andrew Gibbon-Williams

Sir, Mr Geoffrey Turner (letter, November 25), whose intelligent reflection upon his recent visit to Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum highlighted the nonsense of not charging entrance fees to our major museums, might be interesred to know that the practical Dutch also offer a "museum year card". At a modest Dfl 47.5 (£17) per annum it facilitates free access to nearly 300 museums and galleries across the

The absurdity of Britain's traditional distaste for funding the care and display of its artistic heritage is currently demonstrated at the Glasgow Museums and Art Galleries which, having just opened a £7.5 million modern art gallery, now closes all its galleries except that at Kelvingrove every Tuesday to save money.

Moreover, as part of a "restructuring" exercise, it is on course to abolish a third of its curatorial and two thirds of its conservation staff next year.

Yours faithfully. A. GIBBON-WILLIAMS, Merlindale, Broughton, Lanarkshire.

From Professor Nicholas Mann, Director of the Warburg Institute

Sir, Much of the debate surrounding the crisis faced by the Trustees of the British Museum has centred on the damaging effects that the Government's funding cuts will undoubtedly have on the museum's role as an outstanding public resource.

I should like to call attention to a less popular but nonetheless fundamental aspect of the part that the museum plays in maintaining civilised values: the support that it gives, through its collections and its curators, to scholarship. Any measures which inhibit access to the collections will inevitably damage the cause of teaching and research in the humanities; there is even a risk that certain

disciplines (such as numismatics, which is not taught in universities)

will disappear altogether if not fos-

tered in the museum. The preservation and study of the past are not luxuries, but essential components of our civilisation. Without them, the humane values for which this country was once admired cannot survive.

It is tragic that the Government is compounding the deleterious effects of cuts in university funding with a further blow to the greatest of our national repositories of knowledge. We must hope that the Trustees will be able to resist the pressures that now threaten yet another irreplace-

Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS MANN, Director, The Warburg Institute, Woburn Square, WCI. November 25.

From Professor Emeritus

Sir. The value of the British Museum as "a great educational resource" (letter. November 21) was highlighted in a visit I paid there yesterday. Large groups of bright-eyed primary school children and their teachers filled many parts of the building. Their evident excitement communicated itself to all around, including those of us no longer in the flower of youth.

Surely any imposition of an entrance charge which might adversely affect these activities would be a great shame. Let us hope that wiser counsels prevail and that free access to this wonderful museum is maintained.

Yours faithfully. G. B. WINTER, I Hartfield Close, Elstree, Hertfordshire.

Occupied Jersey

From Mrs B. A. Milton

Sir, Having lived through the Gercounter the allegation of an informant (report, November 20; also letter, November 22):

The behaviour of a great number of women had been quite disgraceful. There are many illegitimate children on the island born of German fathers. The Westaway crèche on Royal Parade is full of the little bastards.

I was a staff nurse and sister in the creche throughout the war and the number of children rose from about 45 before the war to a maximum of 63. All children were registered as British national's and treated as such. It is my personal opinion that only a small minority of these children had German

The German authorities were high-ly sensitive to the accusation that children born of German fathers held in the creche were subject to discrimination. I recall vividly a snap inspection in 1943, which we found afterwards to be based on an allegation of bias. This letter is to dispute for the

record the impression given that large numbers of children were involved.

On a separate note, may I also state that what really angers me is the use of the term bastards to describe young beings who all shared the need for love and care which we endeavoured to give them in difficult times.

Yours faithfully. B. A. MILTON (nèe Hall), 13 Berkely Close, Cherry Garden Avenue, Folkestone, Kent. November 25.

Monetary union

From Mr M. C. Kennedy

Sir. Government bonds are not, as Professor Ralston (letter, November 21) contends, a "creative" way of avoiding budget imbalance, but the principal method by which govern-ments finance their existing budget imbalances.

If the UK were constitutionally obliged, like certain states in the United States to balance its budget year by year the effect would be to magnify the size of business downturns. This is because the fall in government revenues which accompanies any fall in incomes would have to be matched by equally large cuts in government spending, thus causing further job losses, a further fall in income and consumption.

This would lead to yet a further fall in tax proceeds, to renewed budget imbalance and so on.

A major reason for opposing membership of the European single currency, as presently conceived, is that to join it would deprive future governments in the UK and elsewhere of the power to pursue a full-employment policy if their electorates wished them to do so. Not only would they be constrained by fiscal rules, but they would also be extremely unsure of the necessary monetary backing from an independent European central bank.

Yours etc. M. C. KENNEDY (Economic adviser, HM Treasury, 1956-65), 53 Kingston Road, Didsbury, Manchester. November 21.

Going to St Ives From Mr Viv Cothey

Sir, Mr Michael Knight fletter, November 22) is quite correct that historically the Cornish town name was not spelled St Ives, indeed in Cornish it was Porthia.

But today the confusion with St Ives in Cambridgeshire is commonplace and every hake inative of the Cornish town) knows of the drivers, usually of articulated lorries stuck fast in Tregenna Hill, who have arrived at the wrong St Ives for their delivery

VIV COTHEY, As from: 2 Harry's Court, St Ives, Cornwall. November 22.

Heart to hub?

From Mr Roger Braban

Sir, Last week all four hubcaps were stolen from my car. In order to make an insurance claim I notified the police, Today, I received a letter from the local station offering "emotional sup-

Counselling? For stolen hubcaps? Yours faithfully, R. BRABAN, Savile Club, 69 Brook Street, WI.

Castaway Blair From Sir Donald Tebbit

Sir, It was so pleasant to hear that nice Tony Blair agreeing with Sue Lawley on Desert Island Discs (report, November 25) that he and John Major and most other MPs were basically just nice chaps who had gone into politics with the aim of trying to improve things in the country. Appar ently they only disagree with each other on how to do this, and like nothing better than opportunities for civilised discussions on that aspect.

Pleasant it may have been to hear this but hard to square with what the rest of us see and hear going on in Parliament. It all looks and sounds so

By the end of the programme I was left only with the hope, perhaps equally forlorn, that in office Mr Blair's choice of policies would prove more realistic than his initial vision of parliamentary camaraderie - and incidentally might sound distinctly better than his particular choice of

Yours sincerely, DONALD TEBBIT. Priory Cottage, Church Road, Toft, Cambridge. November 25.

> Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

School tests

From Mrs June Benn

Sir, Two senior A-level English examiners have resigned because they feel that the marking system will penalise flair and originality (report, November 23). As a former teacher I find it ironic that in a subject like literature at this level, in which I can remember real originality based on scholarship being encouraged - especially in the old grammar schools and in the Slevel papers - it is now beyond the wit of the bureaucrats who set the papers to recognise excellence.

On the other hand, in a maths test for 13-year-olds (report, November 21), the question (on "number sense") required an approximate answer. They were asked about how many times a heart beats in an hour if it beats 72 times a minute. The answer had to be one of four given. Why not get the benighted adolescents to actually multiply 60 by 72 (4,320) instead of asking for an approximate answer (4,200) which could very well be guessed at? Multiple choice is the wrong type of question for maths at

I despair of our education system, We need both rigour and creativity but at different times, at different stages and for different subjects.

Yours sincerely. JUNE BENN. St Andrew's House, 113 Mycenae Road, Blackheath, SE3. November 23.

From Dr N. G. McCrum

Sir, Mr McClure (letter, November 20) states that "most German parents that I've spoken to in explaining the idea of league tables find the idea preposterous not to say warped".

That is a realistic view, since by far the greater number of German schools "graduate" their own pupils there is no national test. The pupils sit exams set and marked by their teachers, so one school cannot be compared to another.

Yours faithfully, N. G. McCRUM, Hertford College, Oxford. November 21.

From Mr John D. Miller

Sir, Now this year's league tables have been published, is it not time to play "Fantasy School"? The winners could receive fantasy qualifications to secure fantasy jobs.

Yours faithfully, JOHN D. MILLER, 54 Leslie Road, N2. November 20.

Their number's up

From Mr P. D. Mason

November 25.

Sir, Your report about side-bets on the National Lottery (November 25) suggests that "a number of ministers" are not against the practice. A number? What number? Who'll

give me odds on three? Yours faithfully, P. D. MASON, 8 Chesterfield Road, Chiswick, W4.

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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE November 27: His Excellency Mr George Williams was received in audience by The Queen and pre-sented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Commission as High Commission

Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present. Mr Derek Conway MP (Vice-Chamberlain of the Household) was received in audience by The Queen and presented an Address from the House of Commons to which Her

make reply.

Mrs Rena Gibbs was received by The Queen when Her Majesty deco-rated her with the Royal Victorian Medal (Silver).

Medal (Silver).

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, this morning presented the Annual British Athletic Federation Awards at Buckingham Palace,
His Royal Highness, Patron and
Trustee, today attended Receptions at
St James's Palace for young people
who have achieved the Gold Standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's

Award.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, this afternoon gave a Luncheon and afterwards chaired a meeting of the Trustees of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Bucking-

His Royal Highness. Honorary Member, Smeatonian Society of Civil Engineers, this evening attended a Dinner at the Institution of Civil Engineers, I Great George Street, Westminster, London SWI.

Westminster, London SWI.

Mrs Lilian Phillips (Deputy Licutenant of West Sussex) was present at Gatwick Airport, London, this morning upon the Departure of the Governor-General of St Vincent and the Grenodines and Lady Antrobus and bade farewell to Their Excellencies on behalf of The Queen. The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Twelfth Man, Lord's Taverners, was represented by Sir Colin Cowdrey at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Mr Leslie Crowther which was held in St John's Wood Church, London NWB, this morning. The Prince of Wales was repre-

The Prince of Wales was repre-vented by Sir David Frost.

The Prince Edward was repre-sented by Mr Terry Wogan.

November 21: The Prince Edward.

Trustee, this afternoon attended a

The Memorial Service for Lord

Roskill will be held in Winchester Cathedral on Saturday, January 25, 1997, at 2.30pm.

The Portsmouth

Grammar School

The Governors are pleased to

currently Second Master at Whitgift School, has been ap-

pointed to succeed Mr Tony Evans.

when Mr Evans, currently Chair-man of HMC, takes up his position

as Head Master of King's College

Heads of Mission

The Ambassador of Argentina and Señora de Pfirter, the Ambassador of the Azerbaijan Republic, the High Commissioner of Malawi and Mrs

Muwamba, the Ambassador of Mon-golia and Mrs Navchaa and Mr J.R. Monroy, Managing Director of the Latin American and Caribbean Cul-

namerican and Cartobean Cul-narial Solety, were the hosts at the annual Heads of Mission Assembly held last night at Le Meridien Piccadilly, Mme Sevil Aliyeva, Miss Zarila

Aliyeva, the Apostolic Nuncio, Lord and Lady Armstrong of Ilminster, Sir

Robin and Lady Remwick, Sir John Leahy and Mr Philip Astley, Vice-Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps,

were the guests of honour.

School, London.

Assembly

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Lord Roskill

Luncheon followed by a meeting of the Trustees of The Duke of Edinrgh's Award at Buckingham

morning visited Cookridge Hospital, Cookridge Leeds, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of West Yorkshire (Mr John Lyles). Her Royal Highness, Patron, Nat-

Canal Road, Bradford. The Princess Royal, Patron, SENSE - the National Deafblind and

SENSE- the National Dearbtind and Rubella Association, afterwards visited a unit for deafblind pupils at Thorn Park School, Thorn Lanc. Bingley Road, Bradford.

Her Royal Highness later gave the Opening Address at the Health Visitors' Association's Conference at the Harrogate and was received by Mr. Harrogate, and was received by Mr David Nelson (Deputy Lieutenant of North Yorkshire).

CLARENCE HOUSE
November 21: Queen Elizabeth The
Queen Mother this morning visited
the Royal Smithfield Show at Earls

The Lady Angela Oswald, Major Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bt, and Mr Martin Leslie were in attendance. YORK HOUSE

YORK HOUSE
November 27: The Duke of Kent this
morning received the Syrian Foreign
Minister. Mr Farouk Al-Shara'a, at
York House, St James's Palace.
His Royal Highness, President,
later this morning attended the
exhibition Conflicts Since 1945 at the
Imperial War Museum I syntam. Imperial War Museum, Lambeth THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
November 27: Princess Alexandra
this afternoon opened the Anchor
Centre, Paisley, and was received by
Her Majesty's Lord-Licutenant of
Renfrewshire (the Lord Goold).
Her Royal Highness, President of
Sight Savers International (Royal
Commonwealth Society for the
Blind), accompanied by the Hon Sir
Angus Ogilvy, this evening attended
a Dinner given by Sight Savers and
the Pakistan Community of Edinburgh and East of Scotland, at the
MacRobert Pavilion, Royal Highland MacRobert Pavilion, Royal Highland Centre, Ingliston, Edinburgh, Princess Alexandra was received

by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh (Mr Eric Milligan, the Right Hon the Lord Proposet)

Birthdays today

Mr Kriss Akabusi, athlete, 38: Miss Fiona Armstrong, broadcaster, 40; Sir Gordon Beveridge, Vice-Chan-cellor, The Queen's University, Bel-fast, 63: Lady Bottomley, 90; Vice-Admiral Sir David Brown, 69; Mr

Geoffrey Clarke, artist and sculptor, 72: Sir David Croom-Johnson, former

72: Sir David Croom-Johnson, former Lord Justice of Appeal, 82: Mr Afistair Darling, MP, 43: Mr F.C.H. du Preez, former rugby player, 61: Mr Terence Frisby, playwright, actor and producer. 64: Mr Tony Garrett, director of campaigning and chief agent, Conservative Central Office, 43: the Right Rev M.G. Hare Dulce, former Bishop of St. Andrews.

Dunkeld and Dunblane, 71: Lord Macdonald, 49: Mr Keith Miller, former cricketer, 77: General Sir

David Mostyn. 68; Miss Dervla Murphy, author, 65; Sir Idris Pearce, chartered surveyor, 63; Sir Lewis Robertson, industrialist, 74; the Right

RODERTSON. Industrialist. 74: the Right Rev Patrick Rodger, former Bishop of Oxford. 76: Lieutenant-General Sir Robert Ross. 57: Sir Saxon Tate. former chairman, London. FOX, 65: Mr Raymond Whitney. MP, 66.

BIRTHS: William Blake, poet, en-graver and painter, London, 1757: Friedrich Engels, co-author of the Communist Manifesto, Barmen, Germany, 1820: Anton Rubinstein,

pianist and composer. Moldavia, 1829; Nancy Mitford, novelist. London, 1904.

DEATHS: Gian Bernini, sculptor, Rome, 1680: Wilhelmina, Queen of The Netherlands 1890-1948, Het Loo, 1902: Rosalind Russell, actress, Bev-

erley Hills, California, 1976.

Anniversaries

ional Association of Citizen's Advice Bureaux, this afternoon visited Bradford Citizen's Advice Bureau, 17

Type Museum in south London to acquire one of the world's most important collections of historic type artefacts and archives was announced this week by the National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF).

The collection, which contains some 600 sets of hardcut steel letter punches and more than 5,000 sets of matrices used to cast type, as well as extensive archives and library material, was at risk of being broken up and sold abroad. It is at present in a factory basement in Sheffield but will be temporarily housed by the

The private treaty sale was arranged through Michael Heseltine, Sotheby's printing expert, after years of negotiations. Anthea Case, director of the NHMF, said yesterday that as a result of the acquisition the museum would hold one of the world's most comprehensive collections of artefacts relating to the heritage of the printed word.

The museum's buildings in

Historic collection covers 500 years of printing

£495,000 grant saves rare type archive

By JOHN YOUNG

be refurbished over the next

two years and will contain

exhibition and gallery space

and educational workshops.

It already houses some eight

million artefacts which for-

merly belonged to the Mono-

the corporation, founded in

1897, supplied automated

typesetting equipment used to produce books and news-

papers in most parts of the

be cleaned after use and then distributed back into type

cases ready to be used again.

The new system, which cast

fresh type from molten lead,

and in which the compositor worked at a keyboard, pro-

duced huge savings in time

With the demise of hot-

metal printing, now largely superseded by computerised

typesetting, the corporation went into receivership in

1992, and many of its ma-

chines and nearly all its

seum. The machines are still

operated on a commercial basis within the type museum

under the direction of Dun-

can Avery, who joined the corporation in 1945.

Monotype Hot Metal, of which Mr Avery is managing director, employs just four skilled craftsmen compared

with 2,500 in the corpora-

tion's heyday. It supplies

about 20 small firms in

Britain but its main markets

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Twelfith Man. The Lord's

Taverners, was represented by Sir Colin Cowdrey, who also read If by Rudyard Kipling, at a service of celebration for the life of Mr Leslie

Crowther, entertainer, held yes-

terday at St John's Wood Church.

The Prince of Wales was repre-

sented by Sir David Frost, and

Prince Edward by Mr Terry Wogan. The Rev John Slater and

Miss Charlotte Crowther and

Miss Liz Crowther, daughters, and

Mr Nick Crowther, son, gave readings. Mr Michael Grade, Mr

Barry Cryer and Mr Patrick Shervington paid tribute.

The Prime Minister was repre-

sented by Mr Raman Subba Row.

Among others present were:

Among others present were:

Mrs Crowther (widow), Mr and Mrs Peter Stevents and Mrs and Mrs David Taraskevics (sons-in-law and daughters), Mr Adam Calidn (son-in-law). Mrs Nick Crowther (daughter-in-law), Sara, Kristina, Manhew and Anthony Stevens, Miss Sarah and Miss Cathleen Lynott, Natasha and Lukas Taraskevics, Alexandra, Clemency and Maddle Calidn and Leah and Sacha Crowther (grandchildren) with other members of the lamity.

Mr Ken Lawrence (chairman, The Lord's Tavemers) with other trustees and members, members of the Lady Tavemers: Mr Roger Knight (secretary, MCCI, the Hon Tim Lamb Chief executive, TCCB), Mr Cilif Ciliot (president, Northinghamshire County Cricket Club), Mrs Betty Surridge (Surrey County Cr

the Rev Richard Hall officiated.

Mr Leslie Crowther

Memorial service

world. Before that type had to

For much of this century

type Corporation.

A GRANT of £495,000 to the used by circus elephants, is to

The Stephenson Blake collection is owned by a Sheffield company of typefounders es-tablished in 1818 which in the last 150 years has acquired the type punches and matrices of most of the main London typefounders going back to the earliest days of printing more than five centuries ago. It includes types used in the first English newspapers and in most of the books printed in English since 1720.

Oxford University Press.

Stockwell, formerly a Victori-an horse hospital occasionally

Royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edin-burgh will attend a service in West-minster Abbey at 7.00 to mark the Porvoo Declaration.

Porvoo Declaration.
The Duke of Edinburgh, as Senior Fellow, will present the Royal Academy of Engineering MacRobert award at Buckingham Palace at 10.00; as Patron and Trustee of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, will attend a reception at the London Hilton on Park Lane at 12.15; and, as Possident of the English-Sensiting

Hillion on Park Lane at 12.15; and, as President of the English-Speaking Union, will present the 1996 Duke of Edinburgh English Language Book Competition awards and the ESU English Language awards and preside at a meeting of the ESU Language Committee at Buckingham Palace at 3.00. Later, he will attend the London Federation of Clubs for Young People's 93rd senior boxing People's 93rd senior boxing

Young People's 93rd senior boxing finals at the London Hilton on Park Lane at 9.30.

The Princess Royal, as President of the Patrons, Crime Concern, will attend the Violence in Schools semi-

nar. Burmah Castrol headquarters, Pipers Way, Swindon, at 10.15: will

visit Motorola, Euroway Business Park, Swindon, at 11.40; as President of the Save the Children Fund, will

unveil a plaque at Marlborough Library at 1.25 to commemorate

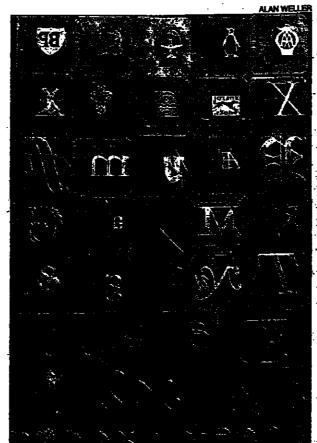
Eglannyne Jebb as founder of the fund; will open a new sports hall, St Francis School, Marlborough Road, Pewsey, at 2.10; as President of The

Princess Royal Trust for Carers, will

attend the official launch of Kennet Carers Centre, Old Ford Court, High

Street. Pewsey, at 3.05; and will open flats purchased by Sarsen Housing Association from the Ministry of

ASSOCIATION trem the retinistry of Defence, Tidworth, at 4.15. Princess Alexandra will visit the Hong Kong City of Tomorrow exhibition at the City Art Centre, Market Street, Edinburgh, at



Some Monotype steel display punches showing various typefaces and designs

archives were purchased by the Merrion Monotype Trust, are in Third World countries with financial help from the where letterpress is still wide-NHMF and the Science Mu-

ly used. The Monotype Archive in-cludes much material from The Times, which in 1908 became the first and only national newspaper to employ Monotype. Although Linotype was in general use for speed reasons, The Times found Monotype more suitable for its City pages in which stock market prices could be easily altered by replacing single characters.
In 1932 The Times New

Tom Anwood, Mr Brian Baldock, Mr C Barker, Mr and Mrs Peter Bendle, the Rev Guy Bennett, Mr Bob Bevan, Mr Peter Binns, Ms Beryl Birch, Mr and Mrs John Boulter, Mr Tony Bourne, Mr Lesile Bower, Ms Annie Bright, Mr A Brown, Mr and Mrs E Budd, Ms Sylvia Burton.

Mr Neil Durden-Smith and Miss Judith Chalmers, Mrs M Chapman, Ms Hazel Church, Ms Ros Cliffe, Ms Carol Coaker, Mr Lesile Coillins, Commander Phillip Cookson, Mr Ron Crowther, Mr Frank Crozier, Ms Pamela Cundell, Ms Lorna Dallas, Ms Gillian Debenham-Taylor, Mr and Mrs D Doble, Mr Mike Denness, Mr David Drummond, Ms Mangaret Dunn, Mr Derek Dunnert, Ms Peggy Cummings, Mr Paul Elliot.

Ms. S. Emburey, Mr. Anthony

Ms. S. Emburey, Mr. Anthony Fairbairn, Mr. James Rallon, Mr. John Fingleton, Ms Ginny Freeland,

Artistes Association, the Foundation for Children with Leukaemia, Billy Marsh Associates, Bath Cricker Club, the Regents Park Hilton, Granada Television, HTV, the Bristol Evening Post, the British Moste Hail Society, the Chapet of St George, Heathrow Airport, the Hemel Hempstead Round Table, Memory Makers, the Club for Acts and Actors, West Hill Park School, Wimbledon Theatre Club, the Spassics Townwomen's Guild with many other Taverners and friends.

Roman typeface, introduced at the paper by the late Stanley Morison, became widely adopted all over the world because of its clarity and simplicity. Metal type is still regarded by discriminating publishers as aesthetically superior to modern photoelectronic techniques.

The museum, at 100 Hackford Road, London SW9 0QU, is open to small groups by appointment only. Bookings can be made by telephone 0171-735 7074 or fax 0171-735 0039.

Society of Environmental Engineers

Letters Patent granting and assigning armorial ensigns to the Society of Environmental Engineers were presented on behalf of The Queen by Commander J.McK. Ludgate, RD, DL, RNR, and Mr John Brooks-Little, CVO, Clarenceux King of Arms, last night on board HQS Wellington. The Letters Patent were received on behalf of the Society by the President, Professor Eric Laithwaite. The guest lecture was given by 5tr Eric Mensforth, CBE, DL, FEng, and the Society Chairman, Professor Raymond Clark, FSEE, FRPS, also spoke. Among Those present were John Fingleion, Ms Ginny Freeland, Mr Michael Freen'n Mr David Frien, Mr David Frien, Mr Michael Guyan, Mr Geoff Harper, Mr Graham Harrison, Mr Ian Hepburn, Mr Andrew Hilton, Mr Simon Hughes, Mr David Irving, Ms Jenny Junkin, Mr Richard Kershaw, Ms Anna Karen, Mr J Kavanagh, the Rev Christopher Kevill-Davies, Mrs Carmel Kinnear, Mr Michael Leader, Mr Ronnie Leigh Hunt, Mr John Lewington, Mr Donald Morley, Mr D Murray, Mr Roger Oakley,
Mrs Lisa E Parkes, Mr Nicholas Parsons, Mr Colin Pegley, Mr Bill Pertwee, Mr John Price, Mr Bill Pertwee, Mr John Price, Mr Bill Robertson, Mr Wigel Seale, Miss Rosemary Squires, Ms Betty Surridge, Mr Tony Swainson, Mr Charles Vance, Miss Dominique Walsh, Mr and Mrs Dan Walters, Mr Eddle Waters.

Representatives of the Concert Artises Association, the Foundation for Children with Leukaemia, Billy Marsh Association, the Foundation for Children with Leukaemia, Billy Marsh Associates, Park Hilton.

present were:

Mrs Rosemany Bainbridge, Mr
James Bainbridge, Mrs Susan
Mensforth Baron, Ft.A. Mr Mervyn L
de Calcina-Goff, MSEE, FRPS, Mr
and Mrs Michael Firth, Mrs Eric
Laithwaite, The Viscountess Long
and Dr Mary Robertson.

Breakfast

The Institute of Business Ethics The Institute of Business Educs
The Lord Mayor was a speaker at a
breakfast held yesterday at the Mansion House to mark the tenth
anniversary of the Institute of Business Ethics. Mr Neville Cooper,
Chairman of the IBE, presided. Dr
Zaki Badawi, Principal of the Muslim
College, Lord Jenkin of Roding,
Chairman of the Friends' Provident
Life Office, Mr Tim Melville-Ross,
Director General of the Institute of
Directors, Sir Bryan Nicholson,
Chairman of BUPA, Mr John Reeve,
Chairman of Willis Corroon, Mr
Jeremy Strachan, Director of Glazo Jeremy Strachan, Director of Glazo
Wellcome, Mr Keith Taylor, Chairman of Esso UK and Mr Sharley
Kiaer, Director of the IBE, also spoke.
175 guests attended.

Forthcoming marriages

Dr N.P. Barlow. and Miss K. Rediand

The engagement is announced between Nicholas Percy, elder son of Dr and Mrs David Barlow, of Dulwich, London, and Kristine, younger daughter of Mrs Marion Dybing, of Sandvika, Norway, and the lase Mr. Einar Gabriel Rediand.

Mr N.A.A. Brewster and Miss S.P. Park

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Daniel and Christine Brewster, and Suzame, daughter of Milion and Jeanette Park.

Mr J.D. Fowler

and Miss H.L. Frost The engagement is announced between Jarrod, elder son of Mr and Mrs David Fowler, of Bristol. and Helen, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs James Frost, of Cuddington, Buckinghamshire. Mr H.M. Fraser and Miss R.W. Shaw

The engagement is announced between Hugh, elder son of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs I.M. Fraser, of Brechin, Angus, and Rebecca, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Shaw, of Hartfield, Sussex. Mr P.J. Kitenn

and Miss E.E. Dux The engagement is announced between Paul, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Roy Kitson, of Ipswich, Suf-folk, and Liz, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs Eric Dux, of Richmond, Surrey.

Mr M. Tomin and Miss N. Everett The engagement is announced between Mark son of Mr and Mrs D. Toralin, of Stevenage, Hertford-shire, and Nicola, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. Everett, of Holwell, Herdordshire.

and Miss K.M.C. Branswell The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Mr and Mrs Vincent Chapman, of Whitwell, Hernfordshire, and Katharine daughter of Mr and Mrs Grant Bramwell, of

and Miss V.H. Avern

The engagement is announced between Alastair, younger son of Colonel R.H. and the Hon Mrs Cuming, of Swanbourne. Buckinghamshire, and Victoria Helen, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Avern, of Kirdford, West Sussex.

Mr A.J. Hardwicke and Miss A.M.G. Willis

The engagement is announced, between Alexander, elder son of the late Mr David Hardwicke and of Mrs Hardwicke, of Hurst, Berkshire, and Alexandra, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Merrick Willis, of Cambridge. Cambridgeshire.

Marine P. Varney and Miss D. Gladden The engagement is announced between Paul, younger son of Mr and Mrs Martin Varney, of Torbay, Devon, and Donna, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenth Gladden, of Carpenders Park.

Hertfordshire. Mr J.L. Wax d Miss E.V. Pick

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of the lare Mr E. Wax and of Mrs Theima-Wax, of Ramsbury, Witshire, and Emma, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Pink, of Win-

Luncheons

Prime Minister
The Prime Minister was the host at a hincheon held yesterday at 10 Downing Street in honour of Señor Don José Maria Aznar, Prime Minister of Spain. The other guests were:
The Ambassador of Spain, Sehor Don
Carlos Bastarreche, Sehor Don Jose
Rodriguez-Spieri, Sehor Don Ramor
Gil-Casares, Mr Paul Lever, Mr David
Brighty, Mr Brian Bender and Mr John
Holmes.

Holmes.

Carlina Club
Mr Michael Howard, QC. Secretary
of State for the Flome Department,
was the guest of honour and speaker
at a luncheon of the Carlion Club
Political Committee held yesterday at
the club. Str Brian Goswell, chairman of the committee, presided and
Sir William van Straubenzee, a vicepresident, also spoke.

Canada UK Chamber

Canada UK Chamber

of Commerce
Mr Colin Parsons, Executive Chairman of Taylor Woodrow, was the guest of honour and speaker at a luncheon of the Canada-United Kingdom Chamber of Commerce Beld metadless at the London Hillon on dom Chamber of Commerce held yesterday at the London Hilton on Park Lane. Mr Michael Chapman, president, was in the chair. Lord Marsh, Lord Shangimessy and the Agents General for Quebet and Western Australia were among those

Mrs Clive Martin presented the Tallow Chandlers' medals and awards to BP apprentices and young researchers at a function held yes-terday at Tallow Chandlers' Hall. Mr Christopher Holborow, Master, pre-sided. Mr Rodney Chase, Managing Director of BP, also spoke.

Cardiff Business Club
The High Sheriff of South Glamor-gan, Mr R.P.V. Rees, was present at a tuncheon held by the Club at the munchen held by the Club at the Marriott Hotel, Cardiff yesterday in honour of the Right Hon William Hague, Secretary of Shate for Wales. Mr Brian K. Thomas, Chairman,

Service dinner Chiefs of Military Medical Chiefs of Military Medical
Services in Nato
Surgeon Vice-Admiral A.L. Revell,
Surgeon General, Ministry of Defence, was the host at a dirace of the
Chiefs of Military Medical Services
in Nato held last night at the Royal
Naval College Greenwich, Major

Naval College Greenwich: Major-General M.J. De Coninck, Surgeon

General of the Belgian Armed Forces, was the principal speaker. Major-General G.A. Ewer, Major-General W.R. Short and Air Vice-Marshal J.A.

Dinners Order of Malta

Order as Ivania The Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishoo Luigi Barbarin, Fra Jose Antonio Linati Bosch, Professor Ionathan Riley-Smith and Lord Vestey, Lord Prior of the Order of St John, were the guests of honour at a dinner given by the British Association of the Sov-creign Military Order of Malta last night at the Cavalry and Guards Club. Mr Peregrine Bertle, president of the association, presided.

of the association, presided.

Two Citles Dining Club
Viscount Cramborne, Lord Privy Seal
and Leader of the House of Lords,
was the guest speaker at a dinner of
the Two Cities Dining Club held last
night at the St Ermin's Hotel. Mr
Kenneth Dibben, chairman,

ationers and New Makers Company
Makers Company
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the
Sheriffs, and the Lord-Lieutenant of
Greater London attended a civic
dinner held last night at Stationers

Hall. Mr Roy Fullick, Master, pressided. Major-General Davider. Pennelsätier, Commendant General Royal Marines, and Mr Vernon Sulivan, Under Warden, also spoke. Institute of Indian Culture Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, MP, and Mrs Rifkind and the High Commissioner for India and Mrs Singhvi were the muests of honour at a direct of the contract of the cont

sioner for India and Mrs Singhvi were the guests of honour ar a dimer-held last night at the Portman Hotel to mark Diwali. The Bhavan Institute of Indian Culture. Mr Maneck Dalal, chairman, and Dr M.N. Nandakumara, executive direc-tor, received the guests. Grant Mainstained Schools

Grant Management Schools
Foundation
Mrs Gillian Shephard, Secretary of
State for Education and Employment, was the principal speaker at a
foundation dirmer of the Grant
Maintained Schools Foundation held
last night at Barber-Surgeons' Fiall to
mark the success of Grant Mainpained Schools.

Lieidenancy of Cambridgeshire
Mr James Crowden, Lord Lieutenant
of Cambridgeshire, presided at a
Dinner held on Monday at Pembroke
College, Cambridge.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982 FAX: 0171 481 9313

WANTED

esus said, T am the resurrec-tion and the life. Whosoever has faith in me shall live, even though he diss', John 11: 25

BRADBURY - On November 26th at The Fortland Hospital to Maria and Mark, another beautiful daughter, Sophie, a sister to Emily

Thomas, a beautiful daughter, Samena Eleanor de PURY - On 20th Novembe

to Andrea and James, a daughter, Liberty Rose. LEW - On 21st November 1996

LYLES - On 21st November 1996, to Kelly (née Tompkins) and Christopher, a son, James Jonathan. PERKINS - On 22nd Novemb

1996, to Frances (née Payne) and Andrew, a daughter, Isabel Frances. SIMMONS - On November 24s in Calgary, Alberta, to Ellen (née McIntosh) and Tim (formerly of Woking), a son, Tristan Henry Irvine,

SMART - Kathryn (nee Scott) and Andrew are proud to announce the birth of their son fames Owen on 10th November 1996, SPICER - On November 18th 1996, to Victoria (nee Fuller) and Charles, a daughter, Elizabeth 'Lliy' Georgia.

at St Thomas' Hospital, to Samh (née Gillespie) and John, a son, Harry Jumes. VAN MEER - On November 24th at The Portland Hospital, to Tori and Bernard, a daughter, Veronique Marlice. WATEON - On 21st November 1996, to Micole (née Hunt) and Dennis, a son, Samuel

DEATHS

December 3rd at 11 am.

BESSEMER CLARK - On 22nd

November, at home in
London, joan Muriel, much
loved aunt of the late
Anthony and great-sunt of
Sophie and Andrew. Private
cremation, to be followed by
Thanksgiving Service at
11am on 16th January 1997
in the Chappel, Royal
Hospital, Cheisea. No
flowers please, by request,
but donations in aid of RNLI
(and any enquines) may be

(and any enquiries) may be addressed to J.H. Kenyon, 49 Warlnes, Road, London W8 addressed to J.H. Kenyon, 47 Markoes Boad, London W8 6LA, rel: (0171) 937-0757. CAMPBELL - Colla Grabam Hunter on Tuesday 26th November, very suddenly after a short illness, aged 54 after a short illness, aged 54. The loving and much adond husband of Caro, father of Arabella, Belinda and Charlie and stepfather of Charles, Nicholas and Edward Hooper. A service for the celebration of his life will be held at St Peter's Church, Ropley, Hampshire on Monday 2nd December at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Winchester and Eastleigh

LCU. Equipment Fund c/o Ino Steel & Son, Chesil House, Winchester.

COOK - On 27th November 1996 peacefully in hospital after a short illness. Ina Lyndsay M.B.E. aged 87 years. Will be sadly missed by family and friends. Service on Monday 2nd December 1996 Woodwale Creastorium, Lewes Road, Brighton at 11.15 am. Flowers may be sent to Atthee and Kens, 108 Church Road, Bove, tel: (01273) 821985.

CRAMIDGE - On 25th
November peacefully at
home, Peter, much loved
husband of Wendy, father of
Simon, Giles and Emma and
grandfather of Charlotte.
Funent to be held at St Many
the Virgin, West Mailing on
Tuesday 3rd Decamber at
1.30 pm. Family flowers
only. Donattens if desired to
Crisis. Any enquiries to
Francis Chappell & Sons.
(01689) 875116.

The Churchill Hospital, Oxford, on November 24th aged 82, after a long filmers Much loved mother of Mary near Norwich. Died in a hang-gliding accident on the South Downs, 23rd November 1996. Funeral 30th November 1996. Funeral 30th November, 130 pm, Parish Church, Hoening, nz. Wrotham, Norfolk. Family flowers only please. The best of sons, adored by his sister and loved by Rosie. Much loved mother of Many Rose, Bryony and Peter and sister of George and grandmother of Charles, Tom, Ben and Michael. Funeral at St Many's Church, Kirtlington, Oxford on Tuesday 3rd Decumber at 12 noon. Flowers or demailes to the Airhalmer's Disease Society of Rosees & Pain, 268 Ahington Rosel, Oxford OX1 4TE.

GINSSERG - Isabe William. husband of Beatrice and father of Aviva and Susannah, died pascefully om 25th November in his 104th year. HALL - Suddenly on 11th
November Ivan aged 74, son
of Eric and Barbara, brother
of the late Pennels Bons (pris
Hall). Faheral Service at
Mortlake Crematorium on
Tuesday 3rd December at
2pm. Enquiries to Kenyons
(0171) 834-4624. FARRICIOUGH - Lady, Margaret
Ann died enddenly at home
on November 26th Margaret
was the most adored wite of
John and wonderful mother
of Simon, Jerumy and Sarah.
The funeral is being
arranged by Jao Steel & Son,
Chesil Rouse, Winchester
01962-844044 and will be
held at St John's Church,
winchester followed by
budal with Jamily only in
attendance. Flowers from
family only please.
Donations, if desired, to The
Imperial Cancer Research HAMMARILING - Beatrin died peacefully on Sunday 24th November 1996. Service at 8t Marylebone Committerium, East End Road, Finchley, N2 at 10.30 am Traesday Doomaber 3rd. Tet (0171) 607-2828 for details.

Ol624 813114.

FIELD-MARSHAM - On November 24th Major Robert Edward beloved husband of the late joan Helen and formerly of Languon Green, Kent, died peacefully in his sleep, Fundral Service on Friday 6th December at 11,30 ain at 8 Peters Church Fordcomba No Howers but donations if wished to the Hunt Servants' Benefits Society, Parsioes Cottage, Bagendon, Cirencester, Glos. GL/ 7DU. No memorial service is to be held. MUDSOW - Norman Webster O.B.E., D.S.C., C.Eng., Professor Emerirus, Silaco College, Cranfield University. Aged 72, pescefully at home on November 25th. Beloved Insband of Dorothy, devoted father and father-in-law of Catherine and Alan, janet and John, Deborah and Tony, leving grandfather of Marcus and Euth, Michael, Robert and Thomas, Samh and Thmothy, Fuhami service at Ampthill Parish Church Wednesday December 4th at 2 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Leukaemia Essearch, clo. Neville Funeral Directors, Filtwick Road, Ampthill, FORSYTHE-YORKE - Francis, aged 27, son of Brigadier and Mrs Wulfram Forsythe-Yorks, Horning Upper Street, near Norwich. Died in a

Flitwick Road, Ampthill, Bedford. KEALY - Enymond Herbert, Solicitor and former Chief Executive of North Warwickshire Borough Council. Died 26th November 23ed 73, Much missed by all his family and friends.

friends.

UGFD - Pescafully on 25th November 1976 at Sancta Maria Hospital, Swamea, Eathleen Hobel, much lowed wife of the late Wynne Li Lioyd C.B., larely Chief Inspector of Schools for Wales. Mother of Jennifer (Lady Asschar), grandmother of Jane and Sophie, genet-grandmother of Juny, Sasha and Oscar. Fuperal Service at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend, Monday 2nd December at 220 pm, Family flowers only but douations in New to West Clamoryan Haematology Fund of Singleton Hospital, Sennsea. Funeral Directors St James Funeral Home (01792) 643840.

ALISON-(Néw Hasq) Priscills pascefully at home on pascefully at home on Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, pescefully at home in Eaglesham on 26th November, 1996, Graham Heath, Indiana Indian

100K - Charles Ferris, Bled peacefully November 26th, aged 102. Devoted husband of the late Monica, Danry loved father of Pamels and Angels, grandfather and coast-scandfather, Funezal grest-grandfather. Service at The Chu Lady, Warnford on Tuesday, December 3rd at 11 am. Family filowers only, Enquiries to Thomas Pink & Son. Tel: 01489 892640.

MOORE - John, late of Shelsley Beauchamp, died November 27th, brother of Arthur and Elleen. Private cremation.

Painton Smith) of St Philips House, Blackburn, Whire of Canon Tom Bockley, died pencefully on November 25th 1996. Funeral Service Tuesday December 3rd at 25th 1976. Funeral Service Tussday December 3rd at Blackburn Cathedral at 2.15pm followed by pitwate cremation. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Friends of Blackburn Cathedral. Englisher: The Atty Funeral Service, Witney, Blackburn, tel: (01254) 51251.

ROMER - Virginia of Cranhourns, Windsor Forest, on 23rd November, Pumeral at Easthampstead Park Grematorium, near Brackhell, Setks. on Thursday 5th December 230pm. No flowers please. Donations if withed to ESPICA Enquiries to Lines Sannietz, 69 High Street, Ascot, (01344) 20266.

22 Upper Wobarn Plac London, WCIH ORA

STUBES - Richard (Dick)
peacefully 25th November
aged 87, Beloved husband of
joyce, adoesd dnd of Cary
and Nico, devoted brother,
granded, father-in-law and
triend, Puneral Service on.
Tuesday 3rd December
11.15 am at West Seffolk. Crematorium, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, Family flowers only please, donations if desired to

TITCHEMER-BARRETT - Lody Joan at home on Monday morning Kovember 25th, beloved wife of the Inta Str Dennis, very much loved mother of Robert, Georgi, Caroline and Jacci and adored grandmother (Jojo) to their children, Funeral Sarvice at St Mary Abbots Church, Kensington W8, om Monday 2nd December at 2.30 pin. Family flowers only, Donartiogs to St Mary Abbots Church. TUCKER - Eric John Gorden peacefully on 26th Rowenber 1996 descriptored husband of Dora, much loved father and

TORRENS - Dr. Desmond Torrens, M.E.L. (Military), sped 84 after a long linear in Crowborough Econical on 24th Rowamber, 1996. Dearly loved Hushand of Ann and stepfacher to Alfon and Charles. Private Crawation Environ of and Charles: Private cremation. Service of Hamisghing at St. Danys Church, Rotherfield on Tuesday, 3rd December at 12 noon. No flowers, but donations if wished to Crowborough Hospital Endevelopment Fund or to Rotherfield Williage Hall would be much avenedised. would be much appreciated c/o Paul Bysouth Punezal Servicus, Crowborough, Tale (01892) 655000.

Architect, after a courseacous struggle, on Newshite 24th 1996 aged 84, a brave and gentle man. Descent husband of Mary, lowing father of Danialie, James and Jonathan and beloved grandpa of Suri, Emma, Sebastian and William, Funeral 2.15 pm Monday December 2nd at 85 John's Church, Wimbiedon (junction Speacer Hill/Murmy Road), followed by burini at Patney Vale Cometary. No figurers, Donations if desired to British Entomological Society or St John's Church, both c/o Fredk. Pains Funeral Directors, 6 Counts Lane, Raynes Park, 5W20.

TREDGOLD - Verity Micheline, wife of Bogar who died in 1975, died peacefully on November 23rd at November 23rd at Brownings Manor, Rackboys, East Suster. She was guardly loved and will be anissed by her children Rosemary and Christopher, her drughter-hew Chare, her grandsons, Jasper and Baznaby and, her many friends. A service will be held on Tuesday, December 3rd at St Dunstan's, Mayfield at 10.30 am. By her request family flowers only, but any domations to Age Concern Home Belly Service, Co The Vicarage, Mayfield, East Susser.

WALTERS - Joan (née Odhams) aged 38 years, wife of James Walters deceased, peacatulty on 25th November 1996 at home of daughter and son-in-law, Enguirles Mr Richard Walters (U181) 399-0771. WOLFE-KEFME - Samuel Charles died suddenly 19th November, 3adly missed by family and friends, Enquiries (01489) 782404. IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE

EOWER - Thomas Henry Whitley, Solicitor, 28th November 1984, Happy memories of Tom. MaperMott Geoffrey Lyster, 1912-1978, Diplomat and author, Beloved hushand and father, 'Quiet consummation have'. BIRTHDAYS

0171 247 4123 TICKETS BA' BA'S V AUSTRALIA.
ENGLAND V NEW ZEALAND
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ROYAL OPERA HOUSE,
PHANTOM, MISS SARJON,
LORD OF THE DANCE LORD OF THE DANCE SUNSET, LES MIS. SERVICES 0171 323 4480

SPORTS TICKET
SPECIALISTS

WHITTAM - (Née Parks) on 26th November 1996 peacefully at Bank House Nursing Home, Bury, Constance Mary (Connie) seed 91 years. Beloved wife of the late Dr. Richard Whitnam, lowing aunt of Jim, Barbara, Lyan and Geoff and dear friend of Marquest and John Funeral will take place at Bury Partsh Church at 1148 am on Monday 2nd December followed by committal at Overdale Crematorium, Bolton, Baquiries to Mr Robinson, Raquiries to Mr Robinson, Co-operative Funezal Survices, tek (0161) 764-4177. 8₁₀₋ , . . . MRK COATS, fox costs pur-chased Best price paid. All inquires/details Box No 1734 inquines/detaux PRE 1940's clothes, linen, lace, dens., patchwork, quilts, front, principrock, quilts, embroideries, samples, shawls, oriental parties, con-tunes (swellery 6177 229 9618 TICKETS FOR SALE ALL TICKETS II
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DAME JOAN HAMMOND

Dame Joan Hammond, DBE, Australian operatie soprano, died in Bowral, New South Wales, on November 26 aged 84. She was born on May 24, 1912.

ne of the most popular sopranos to sing in Britain during the postwar years, Joan Hammond appeared with the leading opera companies: Covent Garden, Sadler's Wells, the Carl Rosa. She was a familiar figure on the concert platform and on radio: she also had a substantial repertoire in oratorio. But to the public at large he was famous above all for a single aria, O mio babbino caro (O my beloved papa), from Puccini's opera Gianni Schicchi, which was little known in Britain before she recorded it. A million copies were sold — an extraordinary figure for those economically austere times.

Although always styling herself an Aussie Joan Hammond was not Australian by birth or parentage. Her mother and father were British and she was born in Christchurch, New Zealand. But the family soon moved to Sydney, where she went to school at the Presbyterian Ladies College, Pymble, and later to the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, where she studied voice and violin. From the start she was a tough competitor, determined to succeed whether at sport or at music.

A cycling accident put paid to a possible career as a violinist, but she was soon on stage singing small roles for the Williamson Opera Company. Simultaneously she won the New South Wales Ladies' Golf Championship, which opened up another possible future as a sports reporter for the Sydney newspapers, a role she took on briefly as well as being a gossip columnist.

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Singing, however, soon took over from journalism. Much encouraged by the Gowrie family with whom she kept up a lifelong connection — the 1st Earl was then Governor of New South Wales - Joan Hammond set sail for Europe where she was to spend her active singing career.

The immediate prewar years were. split between London and Vienna. Her London recital debut included Eric Coates's The Green-Hills of Somerset (later recorded accompanied by Gerald Moore), a number which was to be almost as closely associated with her as O mio babbino caro. Her first major operatic appearance was at the Volksoper in Vienna, where she was engaged on a two-year contract in 1938 as Nedda in



Joan Hammond in one of her many appearances as Aida at Covent Garden in the 1950s

Pagliacci. She turned down an offer to join the Glyndebourne chorus as having insufficient prestige. More roles followed at the Volksoper and resulted in an invitation from the Staatsoper itself, to sing Mimi and

Then came the war. When it was over, Hammond sang both these roles with the Staatsoper in the period of its exile at the Teater an der Wien, the Staatsoper having been bombed in 1945. But she professed herself unhappy with these performances, which were in German.

Earlier a contract for the same two parts had come from La Scala, Milan in January 1940. She crossed the

border to Italy prepared to sing but, with that country about to enter the war on the Axis side, she hastily scuttled back to safety in Britain on diplomatic advice.

It was in 1941 that she made her famous version of Oh mio babbino caro for EMI. The recording team was looking for an item to fill up the fourth side of the record and it was Hammond's own suggestion. In her fast-moving and readable autobiography. A Voice, A Life (1970), she claims that the mighty Walter Legge, who was in charge of the sessions, had never heard of it. That may or may not be true, but Lauretta's aria did not take long thereafter to work

During the war Joan Hammond was a member of the Carl Rosa Company, 1942-45, sang with the Dublin Grand Opera Society and made numerous tours entertaining the troops under the auspices of Ensa. She did not immediately feature in the plans of Covent Garden

to rebuild its opera company in the postwar years under the directorship of David Webster. For the Italian repertoire the American soprano Doris Doree was preferred and Elisabeth Schwarzkopf came in from Vienna to sing Violetta in Traviata and Mimi in Boheme. Eventually Webster pencilled her in for Trovatore and this was the opera in which she made her house debut on October 6, 1948, with Silveri as di Luna but an otherwise no more than moderate cast.

But Hammond had a personal success and was back the next month as Mimi, replacing Schwarzkopf. It was not the ideal role for her physically. She was a robust, somewhat masculine figure who kept her hair cut short in order, so it was claimed, that her wigs could fit more easily. The following spring she was a last-minute replacement for Sylvie Fisher in the title role of Fidelio, the only non-Italian part she was to play at the Garden. The producer told her where to stand on stage, but not, Joan Hammond later claimed, how to get off it once she had finished singing.

She made a number of appearances in the early 1950s in parts that showed her powerful soprano off to good effect, including Tosca and. most especially, Aida. In Verdi her good friend Constance Shacklock was often by her side as Amneris. Even so, her considerable band of admirers considered that she was not being used sufficiently at the Opera House and in 1955 a petition to this effect with 300 signatures was handed in at the stage door. Webster replied tartly that he had made dozens of offers over the years but Miss Hammond had rejected most of them. Perhaps she remembered her experience with Fidelio. In any event, the result was that she disappeared from the Covent Garden stage for the second half of the decade, returning for a handful of Aidas at the end of 1959, giving her last performance there on January 2, 1960.

Her successes at Sadler's Wells were much more assured and included Elisabeth in the Don Carlos directed by George Devine at a time when the opera was virtually unknown here, and in the title role of

Dvorak's Rusalka. Hammond had another big public hit with the aria sung by Dvorak's water nymph of the title. O Silver Moon, and there was one famous night when she sat on one of the water lilies of the stage pond and promptly broke it. She was a big-boned lady.

She made many records after O mio babbino caro, singing both in English and in the original language. When she was tackling Puccini's other little girls, such as Mimi and Cio-Cio-San, the line could sound a bit jerky. Probably she was heard at her best in roles in the East European and Russian repertoire, including Dvorak's Rusalka and Tchaikovsky's Tatiana (Eugene Onegin). She appeared with the New York City Centre Opera and with a number of other overseas companies. In 1957 she toured the Soviet Union

with the mezzo Constance Shacklock, performing operas such as Eugene Onegin and The Queen of Spades in the original language. Their joint success was considerable, the journal Sovietskaya Kultura giving lavish praise to what it described as "these magnificent artistes". Hammond's Tatiana drew special praise for her nobility, strength, sensitiveness, pride and deep-rooted melancholy" in a performance which was adjudged to penetrate to the very essence of Pushkin's heroine. Late in her career she was bold enough to tackle the title role of Strauss's Salome with Australian Opera.

Ill-health forced her to stop singing in her early fifties. An operation in 1964 left her partially deaf. Heart trouble made the doctors advise her not to continue with the stresses and strains of the international soprano's life and she announced her retirement a year later. She gave up her home in Buckinghamshire, with its multiplicity of pets of various shapes and sizes, and in 1966 retired to Australia. There she campaigned for music facilities for the young as vigorously as she had written to the press in Britain when she thought injustice had been done.

Two tragedies marred this final period of her life. A fire in 1967 destroyed part of her home, but even worse were the bush blazes of 1983 which destroyed virtually all her musical memorabilia, including scores, programmes and records. Joan Hammond was appointed

OBE in 1953, advanced to CBE in 1963 and created DBE in 1974. She was unmarried but shared much of her life with her secretary and friend Lolita Marriott.

MICHAEL BENTINE



Michael Bentine, CBE, radio and television comedian, died on November 26 aged 74. He was born in Watford on January 26, 1922.

AN INVENTIVE comedian of the bizarre and surreal. Michael Bentine made his name as a founder member of The Goon Show, and successfully transferred the anarchic Goon-style humour to television in his series It's a Square World. The show was completely original and well ahead of its time.

But having made the breakthrough. Bentine was unable to sustain the momentum and the rest of his career was something of an anticlimax. It was left to other shows, like Monty Python's Flying Circus, to take up the challenge he had thrown to more conventional humour. Some of his critics said that Bentine was too good-looking to be a really uccessful comedian.

Michael Bentine was born the son of a Peruvian-born scientist father and English mother. His grandfather had been Peru's Vice-President. He went to Eton, claiming that his fees were paid out of his mother's bridge winnings, and during the Second World War served in the Royal Air Force as an Intelligence officer. Bentine was one of the generation of talented young comedians who emerged in the post-war years and, like many of the others, served an apprenticeship at the Windmill Theatre. In 1949, still largely unknown, he was chosen for the Royal Variety

Performance. In 1951 he joined forces with Spike Milligan, Harry Secombe and Peter Sellers on the BBC radio comedy which started as Crazy People and became The Goon Show. Bentine took part in the first two series but came to realise that his humour was essentialv visual rather than verbal. With a wild shock of black hair, and a black beard, he was a natural for television. though it was not until the early 1960s that he was able to harness his talents in It's A

Square World. In a series of glorious irreverence, one of Bentine's favourite targets was the BBC Television Centre, headquarters of his employers. This was regularly subjected to mock attacks, on one occasion by torpedoes and on another, in a rather different vein, by marauding Red Indians. The BBC hierarchy was less

amused than the public and Bentine was the recipient of an unintentionally ambiguous

memorandum which read: Under no circumstances is the BBC Television Centre to be used for purposes of entertainment."

In another stunt Bentine sailed passed the Houses of Parliament in a Chinese junk and bombarded the building with polythene cannon-balls. Other delights of the series were a flea circus routine and crazy lectures during which models and diagrams would spring to life. It's a Square World helped to further the careers of several comedy talents, among them Dick Emery, Frank Thornton and Clive Dunn. The series was revived in 1977 after a gap of 13 years but failed to have the same impact.

During the 1970s Bentine presented Potty Time, a popular and long-running ITV children's programme featuring hairy and faceless puppet characters. In 1981 he launched another children's show, Madabout, which was built around unusual interests and activities. In 1984 he starred in his first radio series for 30 years, The Best of Bentine.

Away from comedy, Bentine dabbled in many fields, particularly science, exploration and invention. An expert on hand guns, he advised the Peruvian Government on weaponry and small arms. He also helped that country's leprosy control programme and took several hovercraft expeditions into the rainforests of the Amazon.

He was appointed CBE last

His autobiography, The Long Banana Skin, appeared in 1975. Two of his other books, The Door Marked Summer (1981) and Doors of the Mind (1981), recounted his experiences of the paranormal and he also published A Shy Person's Guide to Life.

The paranormal was always a great interest and became a serious study after he foresaw the death of one of the sons of his second marriage, Stuart, who was killed in a light aircraft crash in Hampshire in 1972. His private life suffered further tragedy when the daughter of his first marriage, Elaine, died of cancer in 1983. Four years later the elder daughter of his second marriage, Marylla. also died of cancer. His first marriage, to a

Frenchwoman, was dissolved. He and his second wife, Clementina, a former hallet dancer whom he married in 1947, had two other children, a son and a daughter. His wife and his son Richard and daughter Serena survive him.

HUGH BULLOCK

Hugh Bullock, president of the Pilgrims of the United States, died on November 5 aged 98. He was born on June 2, 1898.

AS THE chief executive of the investment bank founded by his father more than a century ago, Hugh Bullock wrote him-self into the history of Wall Street by pioneering unit trusts in New York in the 1950s. On this side of the Atlantic, however, he was best known as one of the leading Anglophiles of his time, in the mould of John McCloy or even Dean Acheson

Bullock belonged to that generation of Americans who. after serving through two world wars, believed that their country had to take the lead in

the search for peace and international fellowship. He was essentially a realist who belonged to the so-called "foreign policy establishment".

He was a man who believed in peace through strength and in practical measures, and as such he pushed vigorously after the war for the creation of Nato and the Marshall Plan. In 1955 he was a natural choice to become president of the US Pilgrims who, like their sister organisation in Britain, are dedicated to the special relationship. He went on to lead them for a record term of more than forty years.

During this time he twice played host to the Queen

during royal visits to the United States.

the New York Yacht Club he also became friendly with Sir Edward Heath who, when Prime Minister, spent sailing holidays at the Bullocks' country house on Martha's Vineyard. The veteran American broadcaster Walter Cronkite once observed that every British VIP visiting the United States would end up at some time in Bullock's office on Wall Street or at his Fifth Avenue apartment to celebrate the special relationship over a glass of port.

Few were better placed to represent British interests in America, given Bullock's leading position in New York society. Cronkite, Douglas Fairbanks Jr and Henry Luce were among his close friends As a prominent member of in Manhattan. Despite his

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTIFICATION ON BESTY May Golding author of Tiger Woman-hif Own Starp, Also known so Besty May Loveday, Besty May Sedavick, Besty May & Besty May Gazmett or other allians. Phone 01705 672116 or Fax 01705 453798.

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patrician lifestyle, Bullock remained a hard-working and hard-headed professional

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banker. Among his innova-tions was the Calvin Bullock Forum, a monthly meeting at 4pm at which guest speakers included Cabinet ministers, presidential candidates or Nasa astronauts. But each meeting lasted

only 45 minutes and the timing was strictly observed. There were no introductions, no question-and-answer sessions and no votes of thanks. The idea was that as soon as the allotted 45 minutes were up, all those present could scamper back to their desks.

Despite having been part of the New York establishment for so long, Hugh Bullock was born in Denver, Colorado, moving to the East Coast to be educated. This process was interrupted by the First World War in which he served as a second lieutenant in the US infantry after leaving his feepaying Hotchkiss School. Returning after the Armistice to Williams College, Massachusetts, he graduated from there in 1921 before joining his father's firm to begin his career as an investment banker. Bullock also served in the Second World War as a lieutenant-colonel and thereafter maintained close links with the three Services, each of

which at various times conferred awards on him. He was, indeed, loaded with honours of all kinds and with honorary degrees, both inside and outside the United States. Britain's contributions included an honorary OBE in 1946 which was advanced to an honorary KBE in 1957 and finally crowned by his appointment as an honorary GBE twenty years later.

Hugh Bullock's many business interests were surpassed only by the number of professional and other organisations to which he belonged. These included several others with transatlantic links, most notably the English-Speaking Union. He was also a leading figure in the Episcopalian

As a banker he was fiercely independent, with a reputation for being the best chairman of a meeting in New York. Wall Street contemporaries point out that he could have sold the bank of Calvin Bullock many times over for a large profit. He resisted the temptation.

however, until 1984 when he

Church_

retired, eventually disposing of it to Equitable Life, while remaining head of the Bullock Investment Advisory Company. Despite his interest in and patronage of the arts, his only publication was The Sto-ry of Investment Banking, which he produced in 1959. Tall, erect and immaculately groomed, Hugh Bullock was commonly described as belonging to the "old school". Conservative in his tastes, he was punctilious in his obser-

including those of dress and manners. He hated "sloppiness", not least in speech.
In 1933 he married Marie Leontine Graves, universally known as "Fleur", who carved out a public identity of her own through her love and cultivation of poetry, founding and directing the Academy of American Poets.

vance of certain standards -

She died on Christmas Day 1986. Hugh Bullock is survived by their two daughters.

CURIOUS WILLS The dread of being buried alive has led

many testators to give very particular directions as to the steps to be taken before the burial of their bodies to make sure that life is totally extinct. Some of these directions are very strange, but are so effectual that, if faithfully carried out, all possibility of doubt would be removed about their being, when afterwards buried, absolutely dead. The testator must have been as dead as the celebrated Marley, "dead as a door-nail," if, previously to his interment, he had, in accordance with his will, his head cut off or his jugular vein opened; and there are several wills directing one or the other of these to be done. Equally efficacious must have been the device of another testator, who directed his heart to be pierced through with a red hot iron, Mr. John Jacob Daniel Weiss, a surgical instrument maker, of the Strand, whose will was proved in 1844, gave very precise directions on the subject about which there is just a little touch of his business. He says: And, lastly, it is my express desire that on my death a surgeon shall be called in by my executors, who shall place a seton needle four inches long through my heart, which shall remain there, and be presented with a ring of the value of five guineas for his trouble." Mr

ON THIS DAY

November 28, 1873 经显然的

The dread of being buried alive has led many people to leave detailed instructions in their from the body and then reinserted.

freehold and copyhold cottages and fields by the will of Henry Trigg, grocer, of Stevenage, Herts, proved in Archidiaconal Court at

Huntingdon in October 1724; they were given to his brother Thomas, upon condition of his fulfilling his wishes with respect to the laying of his body. These wishes are thus expressed: And as to my body. I commit it to the west end of my hovel, to be decently laid there upon a floor erected by my executor upon the purlin for the same purpose, nothing doubting that at the general resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God." The legatee was to lose his legacy if he neglected or refused to lay the body where so desired. However, he seems to have taken care to get his legacy, for we believe the remains of the testator are still upon the purlin or rafters at the west end of his hovel. A new way to pay old debts was discovered by Mr Friedrich Adolph Zimmerman. After directing payment of certain debts he goes on to say, To a certain English lacemaker, however, named Steinbach, who pretends that I still owe him \$147, I bequest my recent written novel, The Son without a Father with Two Mothers." Whether the creditor gave a receipt for the debt on getting his manuscript, whether he was satisfied with it, and whether it vindicated its paradoxical title, we know not; but we suspect Mr. Steinbach would rather have had his \$147 in cash.—Illustrated London

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wills as to how death was to be beyond question. Hearts must be pierced with a red-hot iron or a 4in needle; or even separated James William Freshfield, by his will, proved in 1864, well states the very natural and common feeling on the matter:—I have long

desired," he says, "to make arrangements to guard against the possiblity of premature interment, and have taken great care to avert a consequence so dreadful. I therefore desire that, previous to my interment, my body may be opened and the heart effectually separated. and returned into the body." A most singular condition was attached to the gift of several,

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THE TIMES TODAY

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28 1996

NEWS

Food poisoning epidemic kills five

■ Four people died yesterday in a Scottish food poisoning epidemic that has left more than a hundred ill and at least two children with kidney damage. Another man died in hospital on Tuesday.

The outbreak, which has been linked to cooked meat and pies supplied by Scotland's butcher of the year, is believed to be claiming 20 victims a day. Further cases are expected, since the illness can take more than a week to incubate....

Lorry drivers win early retirement

In an attempt to buy off striking lorry drivers, the French Government promised to fund earlier retirement and shorter working hours in a draft agreement between union leaders and haulage companies. But the lorry-blockades of roads, ports and fuel depots stayed in place Pages 1, 2, 14, 43

Bentine's last laugh

The Prince of Wales and Michael Bentine, 72, had a "ridiculous funny bedside conversation" on Monday as the comedian lay dying from prostate cancer inPages 1. 25

Nurses under fire

The Labour MP Diane Abbott criticised "blonde, blue-eyed Finnish girls" as being unfit to work in her local hospital because they may never have touched a ...Page I black person ...

Labour abortion row The prospective Labour MP Bar-

bara Follett has become embroiled in an anti-abortion row at a Roman Catholic school in the Hertfordshire constituency she ...Page 3 hopes to win.....

Light in the Tunnel Car and passenger services

tors give permission, Eurotunnel Page 6 Murder stress award Families of the victims of the child murderer Beverly Allitt have

through the Channel Tunnel may

restart next week if safety regula-

agreed compensation of £500,000 for their stress in a ground-breaking legal deal ... First royal stag

Campaigners against field sports responded swiftly to the news that Prince William, 14, had shot his first stag, on the Balmoral estate Page 9

Countryside menace Michael Heseltine, whose estate has been invaded by protesters. said that there was a hidden menace lurking behind Labour pro-

posals for a legal "right to roam" over the countryside...... Page 12 Car wars accelerate

The car war between Volkswagen and General Motors entered a decisive phase as the German manufacturer heard that it could be investigated under US racketeering laws Page 15

Solzhenitsyn attack

Alexander Solzhenitsyn has accused President Yeltsin's Government of hijacking democratic reforms and behaving no better than the Communist regime it .. Page 16 replaced.

Lion in winter General Ahmed Shah Masood,

dent as snow sweeps the Hindu Kush and he finalises his plans to recapture Kabul Page 17 Welfare warfare President Clinton faces a bitter battle with Republicans as he

tries to cushion the impact on

the Lion of Panjsher, is icily confi-

America's poorest people of new welfare laws... ..Page 18 Justice is blind Judge Tony Cothren of Bessemer, Alabama, is not influenced by the appearance of people in his court-

house. He is the state's first blind

.... Page 19

Supermice fall foul of fish bait

■ Streetwise mice that infested Bull Ring cinemas, restaurants and shops in the centre of Birmingham have been defeated by exploiting their weakness for tuna fish. They had avoided all traps and conventional baits of canary seed and wheat but scientists found that they were partial to protein-rich foods such as chicken and tuna. ..Pages 5, 23



Sir David Frost, Raman Subba Row, Terry Wogan and Sir Colin Cowdrey after a memorial service for Leslie Crowther. Page 24

BUSINESS

Wickes: The Serious Fraud Office and the Metropolitan Police launched an investigation of former senior executives of Wickes, the do-it-yourself chain and builders' merchantsPage 27

Alliance: The planned £2.5 billion stock market flotation of the Alliance & Leicester building society could be put on hold Page 27

Hotels: Sir Rocco Forte announced his return to the hotel trade with plans for a new £12 million luxury hotel in Cardiff, the first five-star ...Page 27 hotel in Wales...

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index feil 21.8 points to close at 4046.6. Sterling's trade-weighted index was unchanged at 93.2 after a rise from \$1.6726 to \$1.6737 but a fall from DM2.5549 to DM2.5539 ... Page 30

SPORT

Motor racing: Nigel Mansell is considering a surprise return with Jordan, who lost the race to sign Damon Hill. Jordan have already signed Michael Schumacher's brother, Ralf

Cricket: An unusually bare pitch has been produced for the second Test match between Australia and West Indies at Sydney in the wake of a concert by Michael Jackson at the ground Page 46

Tennis: Stefan Edberg concludes his career by appearing for Sweden in the Davis Cup final against ... Page 50

Racing: The possibility of a £5 million-a-year cut in levy by 1998 prompted the British Horseracing Board to order a wide-ranging review of the sport... ... Page 49

TOHORIGHT !

IN THE TIMES

■ POP

to the past

Forget gangsta rap — soul bands

like SWV hark back

Dream come true: Poets no longer Old Vic, new direction: Benedict struggle alone in a cold garret. Nightingale on how Peter Hall at the Old Vic. Tomorrow, a special Now they get out and earn good money in exotic climes Page 21 offer for Times readers Page 37 Bard and King: The RSC is strug-

gling to enliven Shakespeare's

Henry VIII in its new Stratford

production, but the play's propa-

ganda is hard for the historically

Goodnight

sensitive to swallowPage 37 ed figures live longer, Kawasaki Buddying up: Best of the week's disease new video releases is Beautiful Thing, the screen version of Jonathan Harvey's hit play about gay Perfect conditions: Heavy snow love on a council estate Page 38 falls are enticing European ski re-

Sharp shot: Geoff Brown reviews sorts to open early Page 43 new films, from a superb evocation of the Sixties avant-garde in I Shot Andy Warhol to some cheeky may-Personal history: Jonathan Clark hem in the all-action The Long Kiss

on Thomas Jefferson; Robyn Davidson on Wilfred Thesiger and Imogen Stubbs on love by Pages 40,41

Dr Thomas Stuttsford: Is constina-

tion all in the mind? Angina and

vitamins; women with well-round-

Stiff upper lip: How Gibraltar has cracked down on crime and is building up its resources...Page 36

The Daily Mirror's decision not to publish details of the British Budget may have lessons for us: how many Italian newspaper editors, given exclusive information on the rate at which the lira was going to re-enter the ERM, would have resisted the temptation to publish? -La Repubblica

Previous: Life has begun at 50 fo

the model and gallery owner Jibb Beane. Women At Play (Channel 4 Spm). Review: Lynne Truss on ; humdrum return for Inspects

Morning after

After the grandeur of the annua Budget comes the wrangling of its distribution. Recipients of largessparade their ingratitude, claiming that the spending increase is in fac a cut... ... Page 2.

Christian union

In a Europe where Christians haw come often to see themselves as a marginalised minority, the new unity signified by the Porvoo accord is a power for good... Page 22

Of mice and tuna The days of springs, wire and mirsels of cheese have gone for ever Mousetrap designers these days need PhDs...

----- Page 22

JOHN REDWOOD

Replacing contracts in marks francs and even pounds with euro contracts on the basis of a regulation directly applicable only to the 15 member states may lead to legal challenges..... Page 22 MAGNUS LINKLATER

Ouietly, and with no formal an-

nouncement, an excellent British-American institution is coming to an end. The Harkness Fellowships are being scrapped..... PETER RIDDELL If Labour is to offer a convincing

alternative it needs to start showing where it would save and raise money. Gordon Brown has to prove he can graduate from belog Shadow to real Chancellor Page II JOHN BRYANT

Do you fancy a job in sport? Here is an offer that is more sad than exciting - and enough to make every true sports fan wince. It is for a "Steroid Worker" Page 50

Dame Joan Hammond, operatic soprano; Michael Bentine, comedian; Hugh Bullock, leading US anglophile

Lord Carver on reorganisation of Nato: museum and gallery entrance charges; maths tests and school league tables Page 23

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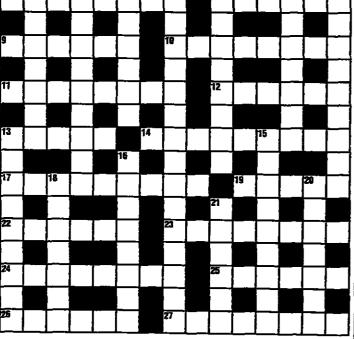
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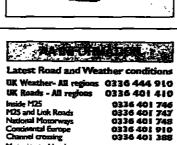
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THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,337



- ACROSS
- 1 One Dutch state? (8). 6 Back call to restrain beast from
- Ferocious type of road-maker, with limited skill (6).
- 10 Superior joint of meat, and punch 11 Expedition to install drain round
- spring (S).
- 12 Youngster encountering maiden in art school (6).
- 13 Start where actor may be found at 14 Animal characters in parable or
- novel (5,4). 17 Has a tie, and having bought it,
- gets excited (4-5). 19 Such an attractive woman may alarm one (5).
- 22 Reportedly want shake using milk
- Solution to Puzzle No 20,336
- E P A I I TABOR O I L NUCLEUS INFORMANDI O NO LEUS A E O H E A E O H E A E O H E A E O D A STAIL

- 23 Injured person's feeble failure to score (4,4). A poor actor about to disturb ran's princess (8).
- 25 Request it? (6). 26 Inform about name of member's supporter (6).
- 27 Ruby, say, is most upset to split what's inherited (8).
- DOWN 2 Autocue in the middle helping to
- make speech (?). 3 Perhaps picnic is to be expanded?
- 4 Was consumer grabbing time to get bubbly? (6).
- 5 Exchanging tips on South Hoy significant activity for kids on
- holiday (5,10). 6 Out of the ordinary sixth sense disturbed Alice (8).
- 7 Felt hat upwardly mobile guy put 8 Vessel seen round a river? Could be (9).
- 13 Experienced filly's abandoned males? (3.6).
- 15 Problem with vision, being too drunk to see? (5,4).
- 16 Dealer intended to keep wealthy one out (8). 18 With call for attention in local.
- contrived to get this? (7). 20 Secure measures employed by printer and surveyor (7). 21 Preserve item Balmoral houses
 - Times Two Crossword, page 52



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HOURS OF DARKNESS Sun rises: 740 am Moon sets 19,03 am Last quarter December 3 London 3 57 pm to 7 41 am Bristol 4 07 pm to 7 51 am Edinburgh 3 47 pm to 8 16 am Manchester 3 56 pm to 7 59 am

NEWSPAPERS

SUPPORT RECYCLING

Manchester 3.56 pm to 7.59 am Penzance 4.25 pm to 7.57 am

for their hits SPORT Kicking & Screaming: Lynne Truss on the Anfield experience

Il Generat: England and Wales will have early patchy fog. Wintry showers in east England will die out as more persistent rain spreads from the west. Rain will start as seet or snow over higher ground. Clearer weather will reach Wales late in day. Scotland and Northern freiand will have bright spells at first but rain will spread from west, with snow on higher ground. Later Northern Ireland and western Scotland will turn clearer with wintry showers. Notinent retain and western scontend we turn clearer with wintry showers.

Li, London, SE England, Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, Channel Isles, Central N: early fog clearing, bright at first. Rain, with snow on high ground, spreading from the west later. Wind fight, northerly, later westerly. Less cold Max 7C (455) cold. Max 7C (45F).

Be Anglia, E England, NE England: sleety showers dying out, cloud thickening with rain or steet later. Wind light, north or northwesterly. Cold. Max 6C (43F).

☐ SW England, S Wales, N Wales, NW England: turning cloudy with rain, failing as snow on higher ground. Clearer later. Wind light, northerly, later light to moderate, southwesterly. Max 6C (43F). ☐ Lake District, late of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: cloudy with rain, snow on hits. Clearer with winty showers later. Wind light and variable, becoming southarly, fresh. Max 6C (43F). ☐ Borders, Edisburgh & Dunder, Aberdees, Central Highlands, Morey Firth, NW Scotland: bright at first, becoming cloudy with rain later. Snow on higher ground. Wind light, southeasterly, becoming liesth, southerly. Max 6C (43F). ☐ ME Scotland, Onlawy, Shettland: bright at first with wintry showers, becoming cloudy with rain or sleet later. Wind southerly, fresh to strong, Max 5C (41F). ☐ Outlook rain in the south slow to clear, brighter further north with showers.

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Total number of lives saved so far this year: Total number of lifeboat launches so far this year Cost to RNLI per day: Cost to taxpayer; To make a donation, telephone:

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Changes to the chart below from noon: low B will continue to deepen and slowly drift east; high H will be slow moving with little change in central pressure

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FOCUS

Gibraltar: Rock to get £5.2m tourism revival PAGE 36



ARTS

Hectic times for Sir Peter Hall and the Old Vic **PAGES 37-39**



SPORT

Mansell considers Formula One return with Jordan **PAGES 46-52**

TELEVISION AND **RADIO PAGES**

50, 51

BUSINESS

TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28 1996

Alliance & Leicester board may drop flotation plan

... By ROBERT MILLER

THE planned £2.5 billion stock market flotation of Alliance & Leicester could be pulled after a board meeting today.

The UK's fourth-largest building society, headed by Peter White, said last night it had received legal advice that its transfer document, which has been mailed to 3.5 million savers and borrowers, contains information that would be mislead-

planned flotation of Alliance & Leicester, which owns Girobank, is due to be voted on by members at a special meeting on December 10 in London's Docklands. The society has already received 1.5 million votes. Under the terms of the deal some 24 million members could receive shares on flotation worth up to £1,200. If the plan proceeds, dissident members could launch a

legal challenge.

dropped from the Queen's speech, has abandoned the clause, contained in the present 1986 Building Societies Act, which gives converting societies five years protection from hostile takeover bids.

When the society drew up its transfer document, it was based on the present Act. On page 20 the society's board states that "the successful implementation of Alliance & Leicester's strategy would be

society's continued independence ... loss of independence could threaten the society's record in recent years, endanger the society's traditional values of customer service, jeopardise the position of employees and would be likely to prevent members from retaining shares in the society's business".

The society's transfer document said its independence was "more likely to be preserved by conversion which affords a period of five years'

building societies that could be affected by a new Building Societies Bill are the Halifax, Woolwich and Northern Rock. None, however, are as far down the line with conversion plans as Alliance & Leceister.

Last night Gary Marsh, assistant general manager of the Halifax. which has already waived its right to protection from hostile bids after its planned flotation next summer. said: "Our only concern about the new Bill, which we have not seen yet, is that it introduces a principle of retrospection. Otherwise we are quite relaxed." A Woolwich spokesman said: "If there are material changes in the new Bill, the board will have to reconsider its position."

The Treasury, the Government department responsible for building societies, is understood to feel that the concept of protecting societies after they become public companies is outdated Senior Treasury officials have said that other mutuals. such as the Norwich Union, do not

by Christmas, and British gov-

ernment bonds eased modest-

ly yesterday on rate concerns.

chequer Secretary, said that

the Budget had made it less

likely that rate rises will be

The Bank's recent Inflation

Report was based on fiscal

assumptions made in the

Treasury's Summer Forecast,

which left public borrowing in

the next fiscal year some £4

billion higher than is now

assumed after the Budget. Pre-

senting the Inflation Report.

Mervyn King, the Bank chief

economist, said that "appro-

priate fiscal policy can help to

control private and public con-

Bank yesterday would not say

whether the Budget makes it

less immediately concerned

The FT-SE 100 index yester-

day closed lower for the first

time in three sessions, partly

on rate worries and partly

because of a fall on Wall

Street, It closed down 19.2, at

4,049.2. Sterling's effective in-dex against a basket of curren-

cies closed at 93.2, its level

Pennington, page 29

HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNT

Cash with

cachet

during the Budget speech.

about inflation prospects.

needed in the near future.

Phillip Oppenheim, the Ex-

options open on

interest rates

By Janet Bush, economics correspondent

KENNETH CLARKE, the

Chancellor, yesterday pledged

to raise interest rates if neces-

sary, but said that he currently

perceived a lack of inflation-

Responding to widespread

feeling in the City that his Budget on Tuesday was not

tight enough to avoid Bank of

England pressure for higher

rates, he said: "I will do what-

ever is necessary, but we have

at the moment a lack of inflat-

ionary pressures. As soon as

they show signs of growing, I

will act. If they show any signs

Mr.Clarke's comments were

studiously even-handed on

prospects for monetary policy, which will next be discussed

with the Bank on December

11. The Chancellor stuck to his

view that the Budget had

undoubtedly tightened fiscal

policy and that this should

help to avoid an excessive

tightening in monetary policy.

In a post-Budget poll by

Reuters, the median of 35 City

forecasts suggested that base

rates will have risen to 7 per cent by the end of 1997, from 6

per cent now. The money

markets continue to price in a

base rate rise of between a

quarter point and a half point

of easing, I will ease."

Clarke keeps

3-mth Interbank

8.6521 (8.6693) 2.1599 (2.1642) 189.70 (188.55)

CSS DOLLAR

NORTH SEA OIL Brent 15-day (Feb) \$22.20 (\$22.20) GOLD.

London close \$373.75 (\$373.85) * denotes midday trading price

No gain The average family

ned nothing from the Budget, contrary to the according to calculations by the Institute for Fiscal Studies, Page 28

Soft market

A leading soft drinks company is delaying key price negotiations with the American arm of Tate & Lyle. the sugar and sweeteners group, in the hope that corn prices will continue to fall.

ing if a planned new Building. The new Bill, currently being SFO and police launch inquiry over Wickes

BY ROBERT MILLER

THE Serious Fraud Office and the Metropolitan Police have launched a formal investigation into the former senior management of Wickes, the DIY retailer, over a £51 million overstate-

ment of past profits. A number of senior executives have left the company since the profits overstatement

was disclosed in June. More recently, after an internal investigation into the buying department at Wickes, other members of staff have left the firm, which employs 3,800 people in the UK and has 120 stores around the

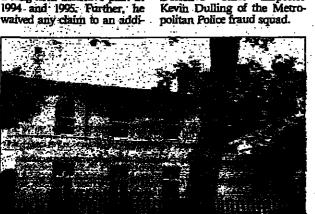
Henry Sweetbastin, former chairman and chief executive who denies any knowledge of the practices that led to the overståtement under investigation, resigned in June. He has since agreed to return £720,000 that was paid under a long-term incentive plan in 1994 and 1995. Further, he

tional £855,000 due under the same scheme. He retains his pension rights, however, worth around £175,000 a year.

Trefor Llewellyn, former finance director, has also agreed to pay back all £485,000 of his 1995 net bonus payments. Mr Llewellyn is now finance director at Caradon. Michael Corner, administration director, also resigned but was not asked to repay any of his bonuses.

Other senior executives who resigned from Wickes, which also has stores in Belgium. The Netherlands and France, are Les Rosenthal, group trad-ing director, and Chris Miles, commercial director. Neither received compensation for loss

The SFO investigation, is headed by Fred Coford, a senior fraud office lawyer, assisted by Brian Killingback. a financial investigator, and Detective Chief Inspector



The London home of Henry Sweetbaum in Regent's Park

In a brief statement, issued late yesterday, the SFO said: "The SFO, in conjunction with the Metropolitan Police, have launched an investigation into the former senior management of Wickes. The present management of the company is co-operating fully with the SFO's enquiries. It is understood that the

SFO investigation, one of 80 currently in progress, will centre on allegations of false accounting, making false and misleading statements and conspiracy to defraud. Shares in Wickes were sus-

pended from trading in June lion overstatement of past profits was discovered. Last month, Wickes, whose shares were suspended at 67p having traded at earlier in the year 141p, said that a report prepared for the company showed that the operating

profits in 1995 were overstated by £26 million, and by £14 million in 1994 and in "earlier years" by £11 million. The company plans to raise up to £40 million through a rights issue. A prospectus will be prepared for mid-December. If the money raising issue is successful, shares in Wickes

could be relisted in January,

opening the way for a possible Wickes said last night: "The board of Wickes has been informed that an investigation into the activities of its former senior management is to be conducted by the Serious Fraud Office. The company intends to co-operate fully with these enquiries. No further comment can be made at

this stage. No arrests have been made in the investigation and no search warrants have been

· Walker seeks £35m from former company



Henry Sweetbaum denies any knowledge of the affair

Sir Rocco checks back into hotel trade at £12m

By Alasdair Murray and Iola Smith

SIR ROCCO FORTE announced his return to the hotel trade yesterday with plans for a new £12 million luxury

hotel in Cardiff. The 120-bed hotel - which will be the first five-star standard hotel in Wales - should be completed before the Rugby World Cup in 1999. Sited on a promontory in Cardiff Bay, the hotel will have views over the Bristol Channel on three sides.

Sir Rocco has made no secret of his desire to create a new notel group since losing control of the family founded Forte business to Granada at the beginning of the year. His initial attempts to re-establish himself included a £1 billion bid to buy back the Exclusive and Le Meridien chains, which was rejected by Granada.

The Forte organisation said yester-day that the Cardiff site was the first step towards creating a new hotel group. It is looking at a dozen or so

other sites in Europe. Richard Power, commercial director for the Forte organisation, said that Sir Rocco was concentrating efforts outside London because acquisition prices in the UK were inflated. The acquisition trail would reach France.

Germany and Italy. The Forte organisation has not settled on names for either the new hotel or the new group. It hopes to make an announcement early next year. It will be unable to use the Forte family name, which was acquired by Granada as part of the £3.9 billion

Hinchliffe faces battle over Covent Garden flat

STEPHEN HINCHLIFFE, the Sheffield businessman whose collapsed Facia empire is being investigated by the Serious Fraud Office, is being pursued for the return of a flat in central London that is valued at

The flat, above Red or Dead's shop in Covent Garden, was owned by the fashionable shoe retailer when it was bought by Facia for £3.5 million in January 1995.

But earlier this year, when the shoe chain's founders. Wayne and Gerard Hemingway, bought Red or Dead back from KPMG, the receivers of Facia, they found that the flat had become the possession of a company called TWH Developments, whose only shareholders are Mr Hinchliffe-

Dead for just El in a contract dated October 16, 1995.

Jeffrey Greene Russell, solicitors for Mr and Mrs Hemingway and their new backers, Pentland Group, wrote to Mr Hinchliffe a few weeks ago asking him to return the flat. He replied, via his solicitors, Peters & Peters, refusing the request.

and his wife, Marjorie. TWH had apparently bought the flat from Red or

A writ has now been issued alleging breach of fiduciary duty in making a secret profit for himself out of the sale. My client denies any wrongdoing or impropriety to do with the allegations that have been made, and will strenuously defend the proceedings," Keith Oliver, of Peters & Peters, said

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salvo in his legal battle with the company he founded. His daughter, the Marchioness of Milford Haven, is named in an action seeking at least £35 million from the company and Standard Chartered, its lead banker, over

GEORGE WALKER, former head of Brent Walker, has unleashed a fresh an issue of bonds six years ago.

and Romla, are also named as joint plaintiffs in the action, outlined in a writ issued at the High Court, with Jasaro, a Walker family trust, which contributed funds towards the 1990 bond issue. The action is the latest since the former boxer was cleared of theft and false accounting in October 1994. He has since accused Brent Walker's bankers, led by Standard

Mr Walker's other children, Jason - Chartered, of behaving like "the mafia", and said that they were guilty of a "corporate mugging" in forcing his removal from the board.

Among other things, Brent Walker and Standard Chartered are accused of being in breach of their fiduciary duty over a loan advanced by the Walker family. The Walkers are seeking the return of the money plus unspecified damages.

The Walker family lawyer, Michael Coleman of Harkavys, said it was "inappropriate" to comment on the proceedings. Mr Coleman recently won an order for £6 million in favour of the Walkers, but the award is frozen pending an appeal. Brent Walker acknowledged receipt of the writ, saying: "We've sent it to our lawyers." Standard Chartered said it was aware of the writ but made no comment.

Institute of Fiscal Studies doubtful about public spending plans

Budget gain 'nil' for average family

ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE average family gained nothing from Kenneth Clarke's 1996 Budget, contrary to the Government's claims, according to calculations by the Institute for Fiscal Studies.

The institute said yesterday that the average family gained £1.64 a week from the main Budget changes in taxation. But once other measures were taken into account, this average gain was wiped out.

These measures are the phasing out of tax relief on profit-related pay schemes, the increase in air passenger duty. an extension to insurance premium tax and further pressure on council tax bills.

The institute's examination of the effects of the Budget on households at different points on the income scale shows that the bottom 30 per cent of households were net losers, with the poorest 10 per

Virgin

Express

cent seeing a loss of 48p per week. This compares with the top 10 per cent on the income scale, who benefit most from the Budget with a weekly gain in their post-tax income of

This Budger's biggest loser is the single parent. A lone

parent without means-tested Tax hits travel agents Analysts dismiss fear and holidaymakers

TRAVEL agents who sell their own holiday insurance are reeling from a governheavily while allowing brokers who sell insurance direct to pay a much lower rate (Marianne Curphey writes). The Budget announced that insurance premium tax would be raised from 2.5 to 17.5 per cent for some types of insur-ance. This higher rate applies

while lone parents on income support are left £5.20 a week worse off.

benefits loses £6.30 a week,

In a generally critical appraisal of the Budget, the institute took issue with the Chancellor's assumptions about raising extra revenue, particularly the spend-to-save

to travel insurance sold in a high street agency with a

anical breakdown insurance

sold by car dealers, and inclusive warranties sold by retailers of domestic goods. It means the average holidaymaker, with airport departure tax of £10, will be paying an extra £15 in taxes on a £350 European package of travel and insurance.

The scheme will cost £300 million over the next three years and is predicted to recoup £6.7 billion, more than eight times that amount. Andrew Dilnot, director of

of windfall penalty

THE impact on utilities of the change in capital allowances, 6 per cent. BZW calculates announced in the Budget, that regional electricity comshould amount to about I or 2 per cent of their market value. panies would face a hit of I to 2 per cent of market value, as according to some City anawould National Grid and lysts who are dismissing it is a British Gas. But some comvindfall tax by another name panies fear the impact will be greater. CE Electric, the hos-tile bidder for Northern Elec-(Christine Buckley writes). tric, said it will not raise its

Under the proposed changes, capital allowances on plant and machinery with a working life of 25 years or more

package designed to crack aims of the scheme were to be described as "hopelessiy tight down on benefit fraud and tax applauded, it was "cheeky" given huge unforeseen spend given huge unforeseen spending on mopping up the BSE and "somewhat odd" to incrisis and apparent generosity in health and education. clude these hoped for savings into the Government's tax and It noted that the spending spending plans.

The institute also threw doubt on the realism of the Chancellor's public spending the IFS, said that, although the plans, some of which it

offer because Northern is now

plans were contingent partly on proceeds from privati-sations, which appeared in the Budget arithmetic as spending cuts. These include the sale of the student loan portiolio for about £1 billion and the sale of Ministry of Defence married quarters for about £700 million.

The institute also argued that the spending plans de-pended on unrealistically low inflation forecasts with the GDP deflator assumed to be 2 per cent from the 1997-98 fiscal year and underlying inflation to be 2 per cent from 1998. Any overrun on these inflation assumptions would require deep spending cuts to keep to planned control totals.

Vendôme looks to yen upturn

in jet talks Virgin Express, the Brus-sels low-cost carrier, is in talks to buy up to 25 Boeing which hit half-year profits would diminish in the second half. 737-700 aircraft. The dea would see the aircraft phased in over five years as the carrier seeks to expand

its European network. Virgin Express was formed in April, when Richard Branson paid £39 million for 90 per cent of Eurobelgian Airlines.

Amber down Amber Industrial Holdings, the chemicals group. is holding the interim pay-out at 1.75p a share. Pre-tax profit fell to £1.3 million (£1.875 million) in the half year to September 30.

Name change

Albrighton, the loss-making quarry company, has a new name. Ennstone, and management. It made a cash call for £4.51 million -70 per cent of its stock market value.

Payout doubles

Northamber, the electronics group, is lifting the interim payout to 1.2p (0.6p) and issuing free shares. In the half year to October 31 pre-tax profit was £3.14 million (£2.04 million).

Oriental up

Wi

Oriental Restaurant Group made E531,000 (E318,000) pre-tax profit in the half year to September 30. The maiden payout is 1p: earn-ings were 5.6p (4.1p) a share.

Semple float

Semple Cochrane, the engineering services group, will be valued at £14 million on joining the stock market on Monday. It is placing 2.5 million shares at 180p.

Ranger plan

Ranger Oil plans to spend \$83 million in Britain, developing oilfields and exploring appraisal wells in the North Sea in the hope of increased output in 1998.

Internet deal

Microsoft has agreed with Internet Technology Group to present the AIM compa ny's Internet access service as an optional part of the Windows '95 package.

VENDÖME, the luxury goods company, said yester-day it was confident that adverse currency movements

The company, owner of brands such as Dunhill, Cartier and Piaget, reported a 4.6 per cent fall in pre-tax profits, for the six months to the end of September, to £113 million. The weakening yen hit tourist spending in the Far East a market that accounts for 40 per cent of the group's total

sales. A fall in interest income

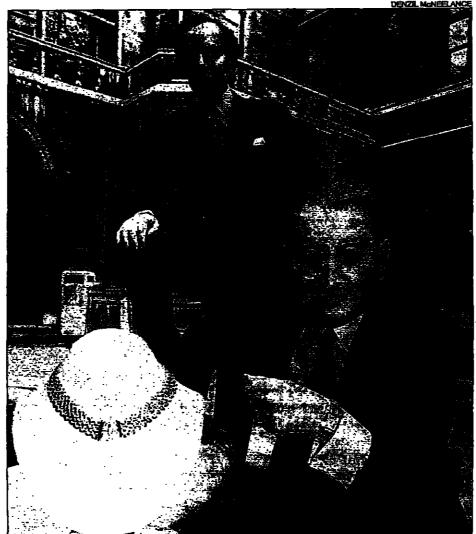
from £5.7 million to £3.2

million also hurt profits.

Jospeh Kanoui, chairman said he believed the fall in sales in the Far East was a short term problem and would reverse when the yen recovers strength. He added that overall he was confident of an improved performance in the second half.

Overall turnover was flat at £704 million. Jewellery sales were 15 per cent lower than last year, because of a decline items, while leather sales were flat. But sales of watches increased by 13 per cent, boosted by the introduction of new products. The success of the new Cartier fragrance boosted perfume sales by 24

Vendôme is 70 per cent owned by the South African controlled Richemont Securities. The interim, due January was increased to 3.62p (3.61p). The results were below expectations and the shares fell 8p to 532½p.



Lord Douro, deputy chairman, left, and Jozeph Kanoui expect a better second half

Revenue unit

First BBC sell-off attracts four bids

By ERIC REGULY

THE sale of the BBC's domestic and foreign transmission service, the BBC's first privatisation, entered its final stage yesterday when four British and American groups submit-ted final bids. All the offers are thought to worth more than E200 million.

International CableTel, the American cable company appears to be the leading candidate. CableTel aiready owns NTL, the transmission network for the ITV companies and Channel 4, and would have a monopoly on all terrestrial TV transmissions it it wins the BBC network.

The other bidders are a consortium that includes Securicor, the security and telecommunications group. National Westminster Bank and HSBC a group led by Castle Tower Corp. an Ameri can transmission tower build-er, whose members include France Telecom; and a BBC management team backed by Mercury Asset Management.

Securicor, Castle Tower and Mercury do not think that CableTel should be allowed to bid because its victory would eliminate competition, and they have expressed their con-cerns in letters to the Office of Fair Trading. The BBC and Lehman Brothers, its financial adviser, will pick the winner, possibly as early as next week

Sale turns sour, page 31

British trade gap less than expected

By Alasdair Murray million in September - the

lowest for 18 months.

export volumes rose 3.1 per

cent in the three months to the

end of September, while im-

port volumes rose 4.2 per cent.

tries deteriorated in Septem

ber to £94 million from £33

million, although the quarter-

ly deficit stood at £700 million

- the lowest since early 1993.

The deficit with EU coun-

BRITAIN'S trade gap with the rest of the world widened by less than expected in September - suggesting that the recent rise in sterling is yet to

The total trade deficit rose to £899 million in September, from £568 million in August. Excluding oil and erratics, the total trade balance grew from E1.14 billion to E1.39 billion. Non-EU trade in October

was also bener than expected. with the trade gap narrowing to £424 million from £805

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raised extra £2bn THE Inland Revenue divi-

sion targeted by the Chancellor for extra resources in his Spend to Save initiative Economists said that a raised more than £2 billion in strong export performance extra tax last year (Jason Nissé writes). Kenneth Clarke said that had helped to restrict the growth of the deficit. Overall,

extra money would be spent in targeting larger companies, and that the Inland Revenue is to strengthen its Large Business Office, set up two years ago to make sure big business is paying its share of the tax bill.

In the 1995-96 financial year the Revenue estimated this unit raised an additional E2.17 billion. In the previous year it persuaded one large company to come up with an extra £1.6

Chief at Fleming's rejects takeover talk

By ROBERT MILLER, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE chief executive of Robert Fleming has vowed to keep the merchant bank independent, dismissing persistent City rumours of a takeover bid.

John Manser, who is to become chairman of Flemings when Robin Fleming retires in March, said that the bank had received no formal bid approaches, and added: "We remain independent and profitable and will stay that way."

Flemings yesterday un-veiled a 16 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, to E92.2 million, in the six months to September 30. Jardine Fleming recorded a net trading profit of \$82 million, up 28 per cent. However, after costs and fines

arising from regulatory action by Imro, the UK watchdog for fund managers, in August, net profits fell to around \$62 million, from \$63.9 million. Companies within the Fleming group were fined a total of £700,000 and Jardine Fleming agreed to pay £12 million in compensation to investors.

Flemings is lifting its interim dividend by lp, to 8p, due on January 20. Earnings per share rose to 41.5p, from 35.8p. The corporate finance arm of Flemings had a successful half-year, raising £13.4 billion of capital for companies.

Tempus, page 30 City Diary, page 31

T&N puts £1bn ring-fence around asbestos liabilities

By CARL MORTISHED

T&N, the automotive components group has put a £1 billion ring-fence around all future claims against it for asbestos-related injuries.

The measures include a £323 million provision in the current year against future claims, which are estimated to be worth £550 million. The company will also take out a £92 million insurance policy to provide a further £500 million of cover. A consortium, including Centre Re. Munich Re and Swiss Re, will meet claims larger than £690 million — the highest liability

Sir Colin Hope, chairman, said that proposals would bring to an end the uncertainty surrounding the asbestos



issue. The writedown, combined with the insurance premium and a £50 million extra provision for some past claims will wipe out T&N's balance sheet reserves. On a

pro-forma basis, and incind-ing tax relief, T&N will suffer a £265 million hit to its profit and loss account this year.

The company is to seek

shareholders' permission for a capital reduction, to cut the nominal value of T&N's fi shares to 40p in order to create sufficient reserves with which to pay dividends.

T&N's action on its asbestee liability comes after several setbacks, including a success ful legal challenge in the US to the Georgine Settlement procedures, a mechanism to settle injury claims. The com-pany is appealing the ruling to the Supreme Court but its estimates of future liability are based on claims without the benefit of Georgine.

Tempus, page 30

Third director leaves **House of Fraser**

THE management shake-up at House of Fraser instituted by John Coleman, the new chief executive, yesterday claimed the head of Richard Scott, the finance director, who left "by mutual agreement, to pursue his private interests". The company is discussing a payoff with Mr Scott, who has been with the company for 20 years, under three different sets of owners, and is on a one-year contract which last year saw him paid £167,000. He is the third executive director to leave this year, after the departure of Andrew Jennings, chief executive, and Tony Hancock, operations director.

Mr Coleman announced a new management structure in June and started a marketing review of the company, which is expected to be completed next month. Mr Coleman said that the company had two or three candidates in mind for the finance director's post. Shares in House of Fraser, which were floated at 180p two years ago when Mohamed Al Fayed sold out of the company, slipped ip to 152p yesterday.

Redland warning

STERLING'S strength and continuing problems in the German economy have hit profits at Redland, the building materials group said. Rudolph Agnew, chairman, said that so far, fourth-quarter sales in continental Europe were 'slightly behind expectations", with the exception of German roofing. A slower than expected improvement in German margins had also hit profits. The warming came at the extraordinary meeting held to approve the merger of its directly owned German roofing business with Braas, the 50.76 per cent-owned German subsidiary. Tempus, page 30

'Spy' ruling favours GM

VOLKSWAGEN could face billion-dollar damages claims after an American court ruled that General Motors's industrial espionage lawsuit against the German carmaker can proceed under US racketeering law. GM has accused José Ignacio López de Arriortúa, its former purchasing chief and other former employees of stealing confidential documents when they left GM to join VW in March 1993. GM yesterday called for the resignation of Serior Lopez before it would consider an out-of-court settlement with VW. Europe's

GEC denied in France

THE French Government yesterday said that GEC would not be allowed to hold a 50 per cent stake in Framatome, the state owned, maclear engineering company. The GEC-Alsthom joint venture is currently seeking government approval for a takeover of Framatom. Lord Weinstock, the former GEC managing director, had said that GEC would insist on a 50 per cent stake to preserve the balance of power in the joint venture. Lord Weinstock, who left the GEC board in August Said Frankleyne is an important operation because nuclear power will become an alternative again."

Mid Kent attacks MMC

MID KENT HOLDINGS; the water company, has condemned a Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry into a would-be takeover by Saur and General Utilities as costly and time consuming. It said that so far it had spent £1.26 million in contesting the bid and dealing with the MMC. Mid Kept reported an 8.4 per cent fall in pre-lax profits to 14.9 million in the half year to september 30 after a 11.53 million charge against a disposal. Adjusted profits increased 46.7 per cent to £7.8 million and earnings rose 49.4 per cent to 35.1p a

Meyer holds dividend

MEYER INTERNATIONAL, the timber and building products group, is holding the interim dividend at 4.2p a share. In the six months to September 30, pre-tax profits were little changed at £20.3 million (£20.1 million). Earnings were 10.6p a share (10.3p). Harry Langman, chairman, said it was unlikely the slight improvement in the housing market would effect results until next year. He expects Meyer to take advantage of an expected further upswing Tempus, page 30

Kewiff sales up 20%

KEWILL SYSTEMS, the software group, increased pre-tax profits to £3.2 million, from £2.5 million, in the six months to September 30. Sales rose by 20 per cent to £19.8 million, from Electrical solution of the control o Kevin Overstall, chairman, said the group had achieved strong growth and was well placed to achieve further growth both organically and through strategic acquisitions.

Vibroplant in the red

VIBROPLANT, the troubled plant hire group, recorded a pre-tax loss of £491,000 (£3.68 million profit) in the six months. to September 30. It said investment returns were at an alltime low. Reported turnover halved to £17.8 million. On an underlying basis, sales were only 7 per cent behind. In spite of losses of 0.71p per share (5.1p profit), it will maintain an interim dividend of 1.4p, due on January 9. Its shares fell 5p yesterday, to a three-year low of 63½ p.

Crabtree suffers slip

CRABITREE GROUP, the metal decorating machinery manufacturer, suffered a decline in pre-tax profits to £2.59 million (£4.8 million) in the half year to September 30. Turnover rose 48 per cent to £48.5 million (£32.8 million). Earnings fell to 9.8p a share (21.6p) and a final dividend of 5.25p gives a maintained total of 9p for the year. Richard Oury, chairman, said order books had improved and the company was well placed for any improvement in the Far East and to expand US sales.

OFT undertaking

Directors of National Homecare, an independent servicing company that does repairs on behalf of retailers such as MFI. Currys and Dixons, have agreed to give written assurances to the Director-General of Fair Trading about their future conduct. The agreement follows discussions with the OFT, which said the company had "failed to meet its standards and also to honour compensation pledges". Trading standards officers have received hundreds of complaints about the company.

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THE TIMES THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28 1996

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☐ Fears of 1980s boom-bust unfounded ☐ ASB looks at reporting rules ☐ Another exit at House of Fraser

City locked in cycle of pessimism

☐ THE Chancellor Icoked weary and impatient yesterday, a touch underwhelmed by the ngratitude of the British public who gave his Budget an immediate thumbs down, and the carping from the City about his arithmetic Immediate post-Budget reactions rarely reflect longer-term assessments — indeed, you could argue that most Budgets linger only a short time in the collective memory.

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Nonetheless the negative reaction of the financial markets has been striking given that Ken Clarke, if anything, delivered more than any could have expected. The consensus view before Budget day was that, despite the political pressure under which the Government labours, Mr Clarke would limit tax cuts to E3 billion. In fact, the Budget presaged a net increase in

The optimists on public borrowing hoped that the Chan-cellor would lower his forecast for the public sector borrowing requirement to around £21 billion for next year. In fact, he cut it further. Laying aside some of Mr Clarke's heroic assumptions on public spending control and revenue raising through crack-downs on benefit fraud and tax avoidance, the Chancellor could scarcely have been more obliging to the Jeremiahs in the City.

In the second se

France

- 1751 - 1762 - 1823

decided not only that interest rates are going up as far as they would have done before this tight Budget but that they may actually rise by more. Mr Clarke could be forgiven for wondering what on earth he could have done to engender some optimism on the monetary side at least.

For all the number-crunching and nit-picking that inevitably follow Budgets in a political climate of mistrust and uncertainty, the fact is that the contents of Mr Clarke's package are seen as an irrelevance in a City ravaged by inflation hys-teria. The markets have man-aged to convince themselves that the British economy is heading

for a 1980s-style boom and bust. But there is no compelling reason for this collective mania. Geoffrey Dicks of NatWest Markets is one of the very few City voices who feels that the Chancellor has delivered a genuinely tight Budget, which will limit rises in interest rates. He notes and let us draw up but a short list of factors, that oil prices, responsible for the current spike upwards in inflation, are beginning And yet most economists have to fall back, that commodity

prices are weak and falling earnings growth is running at around 4 per cent, still very low by historical standards, mortgage lending is up a modest 4.3 per cent over a year ago, manu-facturing industry has barely shown any growth for a year and the exchange rate is soaring.

These are hardly the harbingers of a runaway boom. But it seems that the City is caught in an obsessive cycle of pessimism, which argues that the British economy can only beat inflation if it grows persistently below trend. Surely we can enjoy one year of healthy growth without the alarm bells ringing?

In the interim, look for a change

IT was ICI that started this particular ball rolling. In 1955 the company published the first interim statement from any public company. Leaving a year between communications with shareholders no longer seemed sensible. Since then interim reporting has become the norm, but the practice has grown in a

PENNINGTON



surprisingly haphazard way. For example, interim reports do not have to be audited, which means no outside body is required to ensure they coincide with events in the real world.

Furthermore the Stock Exchange still allows the halfway accounts to be produced up to four months after the accounting date. They are allowed to be published on an 'integral' basis, so that any potential nasties in the figures can be ignored in the hope that they will have been sorted out by the year end. Interim reporting is an oddity in a tightly regulated financial. world were reporting is steadily moving onto a real time basis. The Accounting Standards

Board (ASB) wants to change the

rules. It would change the basis of the rules from the "integral" to the "discrete", meaning interim reports would have to stand alone. If that meant that companies with an emphasis on seasonal trading, such as tour operators or retailers, reported one good half year and the other one lousy, then in the words of Sir David Tweedie, the ASB chairman, "tough".

The new proposals would also shorten the periods by which the reports have to be produced to a still-generous 60 days. In a world where technology drives the speed of financial reporting, that seems more than enough time for an efficient company to put its figures out. One should remember the real reason behind the old four-month rule, which was that as most companies have a December year end, the busy period for interim reporting would otherwise fall in August. The City's holiday period was

considered sacrosanct, and hence the four-month leeway. Best practice these days should be speedily produced audited accounts that reflect what has happened in the previous six months. A few grouse might live longer and more productive lives, but at least shareholders would be kept in touch.

New targets,

same axe

THE third high-profile departure from House of Fraser this year, but shareholders might be forgiven for wondering whether the wrong man keeps dodging the axe. Richard Scott has quit as finance director "to pursue his private interests", a phrase in meaningless than usual. Earlier this year Andrew Jen-nings gave way to John Coleman

as chief executive, and Tony Hancock, the operations director, walked to pursue, yes indeed, other interests. Both departees, like Mr Scott, were old House of Fraser hands dating back to the days when it was owned by the Fayeds. The old guard, therefore, has been ritually purged to atone for the awful share price performance by House of Fraser since the float in 1994 at 180p — last night the

shares closed at 152p. Mr Coleman, carrying out one of those strategic reviews that management consultants seem to see as the solution to any problem, did let slip one significant remark yesterday. "The people who we're targeting," he said, "are not the people who in the past have tended to shop at our

Picture in your mind the typical House of Fraser customer, and you see a tweedy woman of indeterminate middle age up from the Shires. Not only is that type prone to take offence at being told she is no longer wanted around here any more. the task of moving her out and moving in the young, fashionable high-spender is a notori-ously difficult one. House of Fraser knows the customers it wants and it knows the way to attract them is to put the right sort of goods in the stores and then market them properly. If only it were that simple.

The management probably has another year to demonstrate that the strategy has been both identified and achieved - say by the next set of interims in September 1997. Failure will mean another purge - taking in at last the prime axe-dodger, Brian McGowan, the man brought out of retirement by the Fayeds to supervise the flotation for a fee of half a million pounds.

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Tate & Lyle fears US price delay

A LEADING soft drinks com- million off the company's pany is delaying key price negotiations with Staley, the US arm of Tate & Lyle, the sugar and sweeteners group, in the hope that corn prices will continue to fall.

Staley, which contributed an estimated 40 per cent of Tate & Lyle's profits in 1995, uses corn to make the sweetener in drinks such as Coca-Cola and Pepsi. The outcome of its discussions will have an important impact on Tate &

Lyle's profits this year. The annual price negotia- per cent to £5.2 billion in the tions usually conclude in De- year to September 28. Fully cember but Larry Pillard — diluted earnings rose 11 per confirmed this week as Tate & Lyle's chief executive - said that one of Staley's major customers, as yet unnamed, this year wants to wait until January. Corn prices have virtually halved since peaking at just over \$5 a bushel earlier

Gillian Broadley, analyst at Kleinwort Benson, said a 3-4 per cent cut in the price Staley achieves for its high fractose corn syrup could knock £50

profits. Staley's inability to pass high corn costs on to its customers was the main reason behind an 11 per cent fall in Tate & Lyle's annual pre-tax profits to £276.3 million. Staley's own profits more than halved to an estimated £70 million. The total profit from North America fell to £116.2 million - a 34 per cent decline

in dollar terms. Helped by acquisitions, Tate & Lyle's turnover grew 16 cent to 42.9p. The company plans to pay an 11.7p final dividend on February 4, increasing the total payout by 6

per cent to 17p a share. The company said the cost of the July explosion at its Western Sugar factory in Scottsbhiff, Nebraska, was

cent to £152.5 million.

Tempus, page 30

Standard link with Westpac

BY ADAM JONES

STANDARD CHARTERED, the international bank, is to join forces in East Asia with Westpac Banking Corpora-tion, the second largest Australian bank.

Westpac will use Standard Chartered's established network in the region to provide banking services for Asian customers, including lending and trade finance facilities. The deal should produce profits of between £5 million and £10 million in the first year, according to one analyst.

initially, Indonesia, Malay sia, Thailand and Hong Kong will be targeted because of their links to business in Australia and New Zealand. The strategic relationship will give Westpac customers the largest Asian coverage offered

by an Australian bank. There will be no exchange of equity between the two parties. Standard Chartered has signed similar strategic partnership deals with US banks, including one with First Chicago NBD two weeks ago.

Approval sought for drug

BRITISH BIOTECH, the biotechnology company, is seeking regulatory approval for its first drug and expects commercial sales to begin in

The drug, an acute pancre-atitis treatment called Lexipalant whose clinical inals in Europe have just finished, is to be submitted to the European Medicines Evalua-tion Agency before March. It will probably be submitted to the US Food and Drug Administration in 1998.

James Noble, finance direc tor, said that the company would have to spend about £10 million of its £195 million Lexipafant, which will have the commercial name of

The company reported a pre-tax loss of £16.1 million in the first half, against a loss of £11 million previously, partly because of higher spending on research and development. The shares finished at 2232p, up 2p.

Whitbread pays £46m for BrightReasons

and drinks company, yesterday continued its move into the restaurant trade with the £46 million purchase of BrightReasons group, owner of Bella Pasta and Pizzaland

(Alasdair Murray writes). David Thomas, managing director of Whitbread's restaurant and leisure division, said the company is aiming to expand Bella Pasta quickly. The 104 Pizzaland sites are to converted to other Whitbread brands. Bright-

WHITBREAD, the leisure Reasons Pizza Piazza chain will be sold to prevent conflict of interest with Whitbread's Pizza Hut. Whithread recently purchased Pelican for E137 million and is keen to roll out its brands, which include Dome and Café Rouge, across

the country. BrightReasons was founded in 1990 after Michael Guthrie, former head of Mecca Leisure, led a buyout of the restaurants from Grand Metropolitan. He invested £200,000 and is expected to realise about £5 million.



Hewlett-Packard Vectra VL 5/120 Pentium processor 120MHz with 840MB enhanced IDE hard disk - SMB EDO RAM - 256KB pipeline brust synchronous cache • Bus Master enhanced IDE RDD controller Desktop 4x4 package - Windows for Workgroups 3.11 or Windows 95 pre-loaded • Win 95 keyboard and

level password • 14" low emissions

1024 monitor . 3 year warranty, 1st year on site. Other Hewlett-Packard PCs available within 48 hours' • HP Vectra VL 5/135 Pentium processor 133MHz. 1.28GB HDD, 16MB RAM,

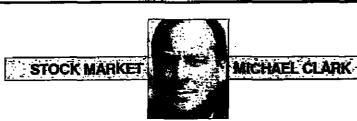
15" low emissions 1034 monitor at \$1,059 ex. VAT (\$1,244.33 inc. VAT)

BP Vectra VL 5/166 1.28GB HDD, 16MB RAM, 15" low emissions 1024 monitor at £1,289 ex. VAT (\$1.514.58 inc. VAT) • RP

1.28GB HDD, 16MB monitor at \$1.339 ez. VAT (\$1,573.83

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MARKETS / ANALYSIS



Shares beat the retreat as profit-takers move in

equity market's strong run on the back of the Budget proposals faltered after the profit-

An early mark-up of almost J7 points soon evaporated as City pundits reached the conclusion that the expected boom in consumer spending was likely to lead to another rise in interest rates sooner rather than later.

In the event, the FT-SE 100 index moved into reverse, falling almost 30 points at one stage as Wall Street opened with further losses. The index closed 19.2 down at 4.049.2 in thin volumes that saw a total of 714 million shares traded.

The setback for the index might have been worse had it not been for speculative buy-ing of SmithKline Beecham. up 29½ p to 808½ p on turnover that Roche might be poised to bid. It followed reports that the Swiss pharmaceutical giant had applied to its American bankers to extend lines of

At these levels, Smithkline Beecham carries a price tag of £21 billion. Roche declined to comment on the claims. In the past it has also been linked Zeneca, down lip at £16.67½ p.

One of the best moves on the day was recorded in T&N, up 32p at 1762p as it announced it was writing off £373 million to limit its liability to asbestosis claims. Under the scheme the group will ring-fence future claims with extra insurance cover worth up to £500 million. Brokers are now talking the price up to the 200p level. By the close of business more than 11 million shares had changed hands.

Redland dropped 30p to 3642p after warning that fourth-quarter volumes in Germany were not matching expectations. The pound's strength against the mark was also giving cause for concern. The profits setback at Tate & Lyle was no worse than expected and an upbeat state-

ment about the outlook for the

the shares 9p to 479p.

Dixons shed a further 3p to 5472p, stretching the falls during the past two days to 23p. This follows the Chancellor's decision to effectively raise the tax relating to payments on extended warranties. Brokers say the move may also affect Kingfisher,

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The rise in excise duty on alcopops hit Bass and Merrydown

64p off at 2724p. National Westminster Bank may be another casualty of the move through its Lombard leasing subsidiary. It fell 13p to 683 2 p.

The 40 per cent increase in excise duty on "alcopops" alcoholic lemonades - left Bass, which makes Hoopers Hooch, 20p down at 790 p, and Merrydown, which makes Two Dogs, 5p off at

the second year running with useful gains. Burn Stewart firmed 12 p to 71p, Glenmorangie 'A' 20p to 825p. and Highland Distilleries 4p to 3372 p. But profit-taking left Guinness 6¹2 p lower at 452p, and Grand Metropolitan 55 p off at 465p.

Fading bid hopes left British Gas another 10p lower at 221p. Earlier this week Shell

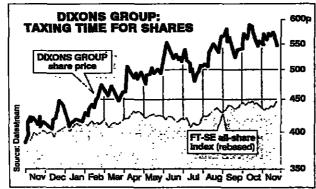
Hanson rose 14 p to 80p on a turnover of 15.6 million after claims that a break-up bid for the rump of the company may be coming. Hanson has already divested imperial Tobacco and Millennium, leaving Energy Group and some building products interests. With the shares depressed, Hanson may be vulnerable.

932p. Matthew Clark, the drinks distributor, firmed lp to 294p. Its shares fell sharply earlier this year after it said that profits had been hit by the increased competition from alcopops. HP Bulmer also drew strength from the increased duty with a rise of 812p to 542½ p.

The smaller distillers celebrated the 4 per cent reduction in duty on a bottle of scotch for

denied recent reports by ruling out the prospect of a merger with British Gas. Brokers say British Gas is also a casualty of Budget measures to squeeze capital allowances on long-life assets. Shell fell 12p to 988½ p.

Severn Trent is another company that could suffer from the squeeze on capital allowances. The shares fell 6½p to 660p after figures on



COMMODITIES

Tuesday. Meyer International tumbled 17p to 370 2p after
it emerged that the expected pick-up in trading at Jewson,
the newly refurbished chain of
builders' merchants, was not
now expected until the final
quarter of the year. Brokers
had been hoping for the benefits to become apparent at
the start of the second half.
Forward Group fell 64 p to
103½p as a line of 121,552
shares went through the mar-
ket at 105p, a discount to the

ruling price. The shares fell recently after a profits warning. Vibroplant, the plant hire group, slipped 2p to 662p after plunging into the red at

the half-way stage. The set-back was attributed to depressed conditions and the cost of restructuring. The Oriental Restaurant

Group firmed 2p to 240 2p on the back of a useful increaase in half-year profits. A rise in profits also lifted Kewill Systems 25p to 4822p. Crabtree Group held steady at 242p in spite of a steep profits decline last year from £4.9 million to E2.6 million.

News of the link-up with Bill Gates's Microsoft lifted Internet Technology Group 6p to 494p. Under the terms of the deal users of Windows 95 will be able gain access to the Internet via ITG's Global

☐ GILT-EDGED: Investors in the bond market began picking holes in the Budget's proposals as worries about another rise in interest rates resurfaced. Some claimed that the Chancellor's targets were unlikely to be achieved.

Details of the next auction finally capped a lacklustre session and sent prices heading south the rest of the day. The Bank of England intends to issue £2.5 billion of Treasury 7 per cent 2002. The issue is less than forecast in som quarters, but this did nothin to improve sentiment.

In the futures pit, the De cember series of the Long Gi finished E716 lower at £110193 as the total number of con In longs, Treasury 8 per cer

2015 fell E12 at £1031132, while among shorter-dated coupons. Treasury 8 per cent 2000 eased three ticks to £103°32.

NEW YORK: US stocks were mostly weaker in quiet pre-Thanksgiving holiday trading. At midday, the Dow

industrial average was

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Mears Group

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Denby Gp	. 262°°p (+10p)
Transty Inti	4751ap (+12p)
Sage Gp	485p (+11p)
FALLS;	
Chiroscience	319p (-1212p)
Smith WH	416'20 (-12p)
Azlan	589p (-16p)
Pet City	4700 (-121-0)

T&N's insulation package

asbestos-related injury claims. In total, the motor components group has erected a fence around the asbestos problem high enough to cover £1.3 billion worth of claims from future asbestosis sufferers. That is about double the worst-case prognosis for the company.

But you can hardly criticise T&N for a belt and braces approach. The asbestos legacy has deprived the company's cashflow of some £50 million a year. To its great credit, T&N has coped well with the problem and developed a eading components maker whose main purpose so far has been to finance a stream of personal injury claims. Locked within is the potential for a more dynamic and successful company which until now has not had the financial clout to build on its portfolio of

OVER the top might best-describe T&N's motor component businesses. T&N's pursuit of Kolbenschmidt will be revived, although the company needs somewhere to park its option on the German piston company, which expires in December.

Andrew Spirit Balling

The writedown of £373 million looks dramatic, but will not affect cashflow, barring the £92 million insurance premium. Moreover, T&N is building a separate cash fund to pay off claims; replacing the annual asbestos write-off with a one-off provision will improve dividend cover.

But for shareholders, the immediate effect could be to put T&N in play. Every merchant bank in the City has at one time or another sought to arrange a bid for the company, but asbestos has so far proved to be a good repellent. By sweeping the dust into a bin, T&N has made itself a much cleaner target.

Tate & Lyle

LAST YEAR Tate & Lyle was hurt by rising corn prices. Today the threat is from falling corn prices. This is the topsy-turvy world of Staley, the American milling business that uses corn to make sweeteners used in soft

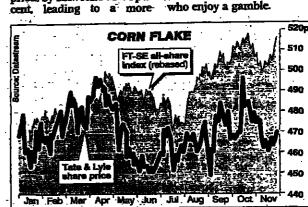
Staley's contribution to Tate & Lyle's profits, close to £150 million in the year to September 31, fell back to an estimated £70 million last year. Corn doubled in price, to \$5 a bushel, and Staley was unable to persuade Coca-Cola and Pepsi to swallow it. The problems were exacerbated by excess mill-

ing capacity and low gasoline prices, which prevented Staley switching fructose production over to ethanol. Two out of the three problems have eased. Gasoline prices have risen sharply

meagre recovery. Yet Tate & and com has fallen back to Lyle's long-term prospects more normal price levels. remain solid. The trouble is, the cola companies are waiting to see

if corn will fall further. Were Staley able to maintain last year's prices it might enjoy a £50 million profit bounce. However, excess capacity could force it to cut prices by between 3 and 4 per

The first substantial profits are beginning to flow from investments in emerging markets totalling E151 million. But until the fructose price negotiations are resolved in January, its shares are best left to those who enjoy a gamble.



Redland

WHAT is to be done with Redland? Back in the summer life almost looked rosy and the share price was approaching £5. In July, the building materials group predicted improving volumes in the second half after agreeing to merge its roof tile operations with Braas and taking a majority share in the German company. As part of the restructuring, it sold its bricks business to Ibstock but in September the gloom set in again as the market realised that Redland had become even more exposed to soggy

Continental markets. Since then, Redland's 364p, shedding most of the gains won from shuffling its bundle of bricks, blocks and Yesterday's trading statement cast more gloom on the proceedings with a warning about weak volumes in France, new product delays and the strength of

should cause year-end profits to slip £20 million to £260 million, yet it would be easy to overplay the setback. The market should have factored in the effect of a stronger pound on a company exposed

to the mark. Ultimately, Redland is Braas: a play on a recovery in the Continental building sector. That will not happen quickly but Redland muddies the waters with its other investments in quarties and in the US Eventually, a demerger of Brans is what the market hopes for.

Meyer

WHAT do John Major and mon? Both are praying for a market. The Prime Minister's only hope of keeping his job after Ken Clarke's cautious Budget may be a surge in-house prices to rekindle the "feel-good" factor. Mr Langman, the Meyer International

chairman, is no less depen-

Announcing flat interim results, he reminded investors that improvements in housing starts and transactions should lead to increased demand for both timber and

building materials. Mr Langman reckons improvement is on the way but the market is not convinced and worries that interest rates will soon rise. In a drifting market. Meyer will re main in limbo with the likelihood that bid speculation will return. Earlier this year, Wolseley, RMC and CRH were tipped as possible bidders for the company. Stronger building materials groups can profit in a slug-Meyer is not so blessed Without such strong cash flow, acquisitions will not come to Meyer's rescue and it could find itself a bid target. Good news for investors, less so for Mr Langman.

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Time and tie wait for no one

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ANYONE who may be wondering why Kenneth Clarke's tie was so tame in comparison to his jokes,

In the panic that stemmed from the Budget leak, the Chancellor's at-tire was the last thing on his mind. A keen twitcher. Ken had intended to wear a personal favourite - a deep pink number, deco-rated with blue birds. In the frenzy, however, it was nowhere to be found.

The Chancellor was instead forced to wear a far more sober number, in deep blue with yellow feathers and red Lancaster roses. It was his Duchy of Lancaster tie, handed over from John Major in 1987.

History repeats

NEPOTISM isn't strictly a family affair. Take blueblooded private bankers Robert Fleming who yes-terday promoted chief executive John Manser, man and boy a Flemings insider, to replace Robin Fleming as chairman of the ultimate parent company. Meanwhile William Garrett, also man and boy a Fleming, is to take over as chief executive. Not so surprising is the fact that Manser personally employed the Cambridge educated Garrett, another law graduate, back in 1970.

A MOUNTAIN-MOVING report from the TUC. Who would have guessed that the majority of today's trade unionists are male, over 25, live in the North, work full time and in large workplaces?



'Ofwat is quite right we should mend our leaking pipes"

Wrong number THE ailing House of Fraser not only misplaced a finance director yesterday, but also forgot its head

office telephone number. The line listed on its Stock Exchange announcement was that of another troubled soul. The Independent newspaper. For future reference, John Coleman, chief executive at HoF, your company telephone number is 0171-963 2000.

Budget toast

THE old adage that accountants are boring took a battering yesterday as the bean counters met for their post-Budget get-togethers. Coopers & Lybrand employees tucked into an early morning full English breakfast at The Savoy, while suits from KPMG sat down to salmon and eggs 45 min-utes later at The Brewery on Chiswell Street. Price Waterhouse celebrated on its premises, while Ernst & Young sipped cocktails at The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre. It was, however, a non-event at Arthur Andersen.

No one home

AS the Inland Revenue tries to recruit new taxmen, it might reflect on the hoards who have headed towards the private sector. Remember Andrew Nutbrown, at tax advisers Delonte & Touche, and a former senior compliance officer like Michael Alcock, who is currently on trial for corruption. So, did Mr Nutbrown make any visits to the famous room 69? "Unfortunately I went to room 71," he tells me. "No one was home."

MORAG PRESTON

enneth Clarke's claim that "good economics is good politics" looks premature. People who reject a pan-European currency on principle may think it a dangerous idea. The Chancellor's preelection Budget does, however, suggest that bad economics will no longer win votes.

At last, it seems, we have learnt our esson. Juicy pre-election handouts, however plausible they seem at the time, tend to come with invisible clastic attached that thwangs them back to the Exchequer once the votes have been counted. Pre-election largesse often places a losing bet on the economy too. The ensuing damage leaves us worse off than we started, whether handouts are in the form of tax cuts, as in 1987, or popular

spending pledges, as in 1992.
What a pity the penny took so long to drop. A review of postwar Budgets compiled by Price Waterhouse, the accountancy firm, shows that this was happening back in the 1950s. A cheerful tax-cutting Budget before the 1959 election was followed by a sternly tough one the following March. Further essays in the genre enlivened Budget days during the 1960s and 1970s. Tories were the chief exponents, if only because Labour lacked the skill to manipulate the electoral/-economic cycle. Labour was addicted to spending pledges in Opposition. In the 1960s and 1970s, these brought crises a few years into their term of office and tough

Budgets later on to repair the damage.

Voters learnt to avoid this trap sooner than the lure of vote chasing tax cuts. By 1992, supposedly popular spending commit- is, good intentions are put into practice.

Realism becomes the sceptic voter's friend, at least on paper

ments had become such an electoral risk that Labour offered its own cod pre-election Budget to give them some credibility. Argument still rages on whether this cost Labour the election. It surely did not help.

The 1992 Budget finally broke voters' faith in Tory pre-election tax cuts. For better or worse, it hastened sterling's eviction from Europe's exchange-rate mechanism and exposed the sham of relying on a lax exchange rate discipline to do the work of economic management. Even on Treasury forecasts, the Budget deficit would have doubled in 1992-93 to £28 billion, then 42 per cent of output. In the event, it was 6 per cent, with worse to come. The tax rises Labour now brandishes soon followed.

Under Tony Blair, Labour has necessarily made a virtue of caution on spending pledges. Mr Clarke has now espoused tax realism on behalf of Conservatives. This looks good news for Britain's economy. If voters shun something-for-nothing promises or quick fiscal fixes, the economy is much more likely to grow at a steadier pace, without inflationary booms, or recessions made worse by government action. If, that



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Labour's Treasury team is going to extremes to avoid spending pledges. Tories are trying just as hard to expose hidden ones. On the surface, Mr Clarke's Budget is exemplary. It contains only a muted £700 million net in pre-election tax concessions and raises revenue in ways that avoid putting up prices and welfare spending. With brazen honesty, it also publishes in advance the traditional post-election tax rises: in this case on profitrelated pay, air tickets, investment by utilities and new oil wells. This is not the scorched-earth Budget some Tory defeatists

wanted. On Treasury figures, what appears to be a mildly tax-cutting Budget would raise the total tax burden from 374 per cent of national income this year to 3812 per cent in 1999-2000. By then, on plan, the percentage of national income spent by government would also have fallen by three points, taking the Budget at last back into balance.

The millennium is, however, the ultimate example of the "medium term". Regular readers of the annual Budget Red Book know that all things are projected to balance in the medium term. Of late, sadly, this tends to move back a year every twelve months. In the 1995-96 Red Book, the deficit was to fall from £21½ billion that year to £13 billion in 1996-97 and £5 billion in 1997-98. Two years later, with no shocks intervening. borrowing is projected to fall from £262 billion in 1996-97 to £19 billion in 1997-98 and £12 billion in 1998-99.

The projected cut to £19 billion, steeper than anticipated, would bring the deficit under the maximum 3 per cent of output laid down in the Maastricht treaty for any EU country not actually in recession, as well as being a condition for EMU. Mr Clarke is understandably proud of qualifying, on arrives. Realistically, don't wait for it.

paper. It is no dead certainty that the UK will qualify when actual figures are added up 15 months hence. The plans rely on nearly [] billion from closing tax loopholes and on economic growth accelerating from 2½ to 3½ per cent, albeit in line with independent forecasts.

Britain perennially assumes that European currency rules should apply strictly to others but scarcely at all to us, one reason why the ERM experiment failed. Regardless of EU tests, however, borrowing even 22 per cent of national income after six straight years of growth is not sensible according to the Government's own lights. By then, the books should balance (as projected in the 1995 Red Book) if borrowing is to average less than 3 per cent over the economic cycle. Even if the world economy has entered a golden age by grace of the US Federal Reserve Board, as Wall Street bulls argue. there will still be growth cycles as variation is sales, stocks and capital spending interact. Cycles will just be shallower.

For that reason, as much as experience, no credence can be given to the Budget's medium-term projections. As the Institute for Fiscal Studies notes, spending figures look too optimistic. Maybe that does not matter. High borrowing, high taxes, and low growth may be acceptable, to avoid currency, inflation or interest rate crises. Raising the growth rate depends on a virtuous circle of tax cuts that in turn cut social security spending. These reforms will only be possible when the medium term

Auntie's transmission sale turns sour

The prospect of an

American hold on **BBC** broadcast

facilities fuels

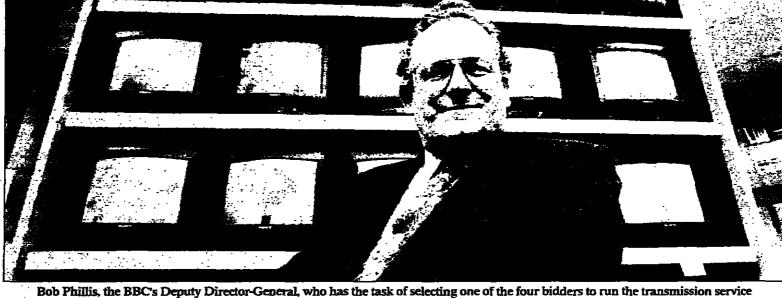
monopoly fears, says Eric Reguly

he privatisation of the BBC's transmission service a sale that Auntie hoped would be clean, quick and simple, is turning nasty. No one particu-larly opposes the sale; the problem lies in the identity of

the expected purchaser, an American cable company called International CableTel. Many organisations and companies, including the In-dependent Television Association (ITVA) and British Telecom, are wary of CableTel for the simple reason that a victory would give it a monopoly on all terrestrial TV transmissions and a significant chunk of radio and mobilephone traffic. CableTel al-ready owns NTL, which is the BBC service's only competitor.

The critics say that, a CableTel monopoly would work against the public interest. They fear that the lack of competition will lead to higher transmission costs for broadcasters, leaving less money for programming and other services, and detract from technological innovation. If CableTel wins, it will

five BBC national radio sta-Radio and Classic FM commercial stations. Through NTL, it already supplies trans-



companies and Channel 4 and will do same for Channel 5 when it launches. The combined companies would have an annual turnover of more than £170 million and be at the forefront of the digital TV revolution, the next big growth

Four bids for the BBC

transmission system, com-prised of the home service

network and the much smaller

world service network, which

transmits the BBC World Ser-

vice, landed yesterday on the desk of Bob Phillis, the Deputy

Director-General, and Leh-

area in the industry. In a submission to Oftel, BT said: "If NTL were to acquire [the BBC service], then all prospects for any competition in terrestrial transmission would be eliminated... This will become more significant after the move to digital, when more channels will become

control the transmissions for the two BBC TV channels, the tions, and the Virgin, Talk mission services for the ITV adviser. They will pick the winner no later than Christmas and possibly as early as The four were CableTel; a

consortium led by Securicor, the security and telecoms company, whose members include the HSBC and NatWest banks; a BBC management group backed by Mercury Asset Management; and a consortium led by Castle Tower Corp, an American builder of transmission towers, that includes France Telecom and three US and British venture capital firms.

The BBC service has a book value of £210 million and Securicor, the BBC managers and Castle Tower are thought to have submitted bids within £10 million of that amount. There is a good chance that CableTel came in somewhat higher. Its rivals believe that

man Brothers, his financial CableTel, tempted by the prospect of controlling a monopoly business, would not risk anything less than a knockout price. Indeed, the American company could recoup much of the bid premium by reduc-ing costs through the merger of the NTL and BBC systems.

Of the rival bidders, only Mercury Asset Management has gone on the record with its concerns about a possible CableTel victory. Mercury knows the transmission business well. It bought NTL, then known as the Independent Broadcasting Authority, when was privatised in 1991, and sold it to CableTel for £235 million in March. It was one of the savviest investments by Carol Galley, Mercury's vicechairman and chief strategist. £105 million on the NTL sale.

Mercury booked a profit of In a submission to Oftel, Nick Turner, a Mercury direc-

tor, said: "Only with INTL and the BBC service kept separate can competition be expected to restrain prices and ensure the service quality and innovation required by customers. This will be particularly important during the development of digital services, when major investments will be made and significant sunk costs may be

The BBC wants a high price because it needs the money to help to fund its move from analogue to digital services. The BBC will initially duplicate the existing BBCI and BBC2 analogue services with digital transmisions and eventually offer a range of new digital channels, including subscription and interactive services. Getting a high price has become all the more urgent because it appears that the BBC is having trouble

convincing the Government that the annual licence fee, its main source of revenue, should be raised faster than the inflation rate. Those who oppose a

CableTel monopoly have not found an ally in Oftel, the telecoms regulator. Oftel has argued that the transmission market, with only two players, was not very competitive to begin with. Furthermore, as a regulator with vast experience in regulating dominant busi-nesses, notably BT, it has the power to keep monopolies Oftel's comments alarmed some bidders. One even considered withdrawing because it regarded Oftel's position as an effective endorsement of CableTel's bid.

CableTel has its supporters. One is Channel 4, which uses CableTel's NTL division to deliver its broadcasts. Frank McGettigan, Channel 4's di-

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rector and general manager, said: "If NTL and the BBC transmission systems merge, there will be cost savings that can be passed on to us. I just

want to save money."
Indeed, CableTel has said that merging the NTL and BBC systems would create considerable cost savings. These savings, it said, could finance discounts of £4 million to £5 million a year to the independent TV broadcasters.

The Independent Television Association is not a believer. Barry Cox, director of the ITVA, thinks CableTel could afford to offer much higher discounts if it wins the BBC service. "We recognize that there could be savings from a monopoly," he said. "But it would be up to the regulator to ensure there is clarity in NTL's accounts if it wins so that we can be reassured that the savings from a regulated monopoly will be passed on."

Oftel, however, has indicated that it probably would not force NTL to "unbundle" its tariffs, a process that would expose the true costs associated with the various transmis-

sion charges.

Although it appears that
CableTel has the best chance of emerging as the winner, the game is not necessarily over. Mercury Asset Management has sent a letter to the Office of Fair Trading, outlining its concerns about the potential loss of competition in the transmission market. Castle Tower and Securicor have done the same. Their goal is to trigger a Monopolies and Mergers Commission referral, a process that would put the BBC sale in limbo for half a year or more. But with Oftel apparently neutral on the monopoly question, they should not get their hopes up.

How Bain found the brawn to fight back from the brink

hen Ernest Saunders arrived at Guinness in 1981, he ap-Jon Ashworth on why Guinness was not good for business proached all the leading man-

to the post of Guinness finance

director was a one-off. Staff are

sometimes

"borrowed" to

see things

through after

ends. And talk

of a Bain dress

code is incorrect. Two Bain

alumni, Peter

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round in red

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Nicholas

agement consultants and asked each of them the same ques "It's not surprising for the media to come in and say total tion: "If you are the best, who is second best?" Each gave the same answer: Bain & Comconfidentiality equals secretiveness," he says, chatting over coffee in Bain's headquarters near Marble Arch, central pany. He hired Bain. The firm would live to regre that contract. On Sunday it will be exactly ten years since the Department of Trade and In-London. He insists that Mr Roux's secondment from Bain

dustry raided Guinness's headquarters at Portman Square. west London. The ensuing investigation fuelled one of the City's blackest episodes, and started a chain of events that have yet to reach their denouement: Mr Saunders awaits the ruling of the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg as to whether it will uphold his claim that he was denied a fair

Ten years on Bain & Co remains equally haunted by Guinness. It did not help that one of its own. Olivier Roux. surfaced as the star prosecution witness in what was dubbed the trial of the century.

But times have changed, and Bain, an entirely new firm, is starting to regain its old confi-dence. Few of the original staff remain, the break with the past made through a management buyout in 1991. Revenues since have grown at between 30 and 35 per cent a year, helping Bain to earn a reputed \$400 million or more a year in fees.
Robin Buchanan, senior

reputation for "secretiveness", which he puts down to an

obsession with confidentiality.

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bold stripes is quite wrong. he says. As partner in Bain's London office, s anxious to debunk some of the more enduring myths about the firm. Take Bain's

is results to shareholders that

It was with results in mind that Bill Bain set up the eponymous firm in Boston. Massachusetts, in 1973. Since then, consulting has evolved from the straightforward "helping companies create change" to embracing the importance of

> company stratthought all that meaningless unless you got results. It decided to concentrate on soladvice. Mr Buchanan said that up until that point, consultants had gone off to do their thing", before making a final presentation to say "this is what you have to do

> > to save your

company, or to

take over the market, or what-

ever it might be". It all went

smoothly enough until the

1980s, when the then partners

borrowed heavily to fund an

employee stock ownership plan. Bain's balance sheet be-

came grossly overgeared, the

Gulf war led to a slump in

business, and the firm's health

suffered severely. The hang-

Buchanan: no dress code

management consultants go. Mr Buchanan, 44, is refreshingly jargon-free. A former troubleshooter for American Express in New York, he joined Bain in 1982, making him one of the few survivors from the Guinness days. Recently elevated to the position of senior UK partner, he is outspoken in his defence of boardroom pay. Executives who deliver, he over from Guinness did not says, deserve to be paid well. It help. The MBO changed all

that. Today, Bain is arguably as strong as it was, working for the likes of Eastern Group and BAT Industries, and advising Gucci on its recent stock market issue. Nearly half its assignments in the UK this year have involved FT-SE 100 companies.

Youngsters still in short trousers at the time of the Guinness affair are now hammering on Bain's door. The firm has been 100 CVs in a day. About a third of new recruits are graduates, working as analysts for two or three years before attending business school.

A breeding ground for egos, one fears, but Mr Buchanan insists otherwise. "Yes, we're looking for brains; yes, we're looking for energy and enthusiasm; but we're also looking for teams. The idea that some young, hotshot, arrogant soand-so can come in and tell a client how to run his or her business is absolute anathema to us." He is candid enouh to admit the dangers. "If you hire outstanding people ... the chances are they are going to think they are outstanding."

Clients are canvassed regularly to help to keep egos under control. And so one comes back to Guinness, which reputedly earned the firm £13 million in fees in just three years. Under its guidance, Guinness sold off interests in everything from

snake serum to health farms, transforming the group through the takeover of Bell's Whisky and Distillers, By October 1991, when Guinness shares were split, the share price had risen from less than El to more than £10. Not bad

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ACCOUNTANCY

Will taxman's gloves come off?

Self-assessment could change the

relationship between taxpayers

and the Revenue, David Frost says

t is not in human nature to reflect upon the good features of the nation's taxation system, which is why British taxpayers may not always appreciate that they have been living in a fairly gentle period in tax history.

The Inland Revenue has spent time and money in re-educating its staff to become more aware of the need for good public relations. Within their offices they even refer to you and me these days as "customers". A climate of tolerance and understanding has developed between taxpayers. their advisers and the taxman. So when a cheerful little

taxation gentleman in bowler and pinstripes started appearing on television screens to tell the public about a selfassessment regime for nine million taxpayers it may have appeared, at first, to be just another friendly gesture from

The truth is, however, that our television hero is simply the front man for a system that, for some, could turn out to be very tough indeed.

Judging by the experience of other countries that have introduced self-assessment, it is possible that relations between taxpayers and the Revenue could become strained

and adversarial in nature.

That is sad, but true. The Chartered Institute of Taxation, with a members in both the private and public sectors, has been alert to what (have called "the adversial road to conflict" from the moment self-assessment was first mooted.

We are encouraging the Revenue to apply a light touch when dealing with taxpayers and their advisers during the first few years of the new sys-tem. We believe that if the system is to work properly, it is essential that the Revenue should be both gentle and sensitive. We realise that we are asking a lot of a system that is reliant on computers.

The adversarial principle is almost enshrined in the selfassessment system. The tax-payer is responsible for completion of the selfassessment tax return. He or she has a choice whether to compute the tax liability or ask the Revenue to make the calculations.

Whichever route is chosen, the taxpayer stands a chance of being audited - either by random selection or by being specifically targeted. It is at this point that the adversarial noises can be heard in the distance. Clients of profession-



David Frost is concerned the gentle era is about to end

ANY OTHER BUSINESS ***

al tax advisers selected for audit will often not understand why they have been picked out. Has their adviser let them down, for instance? Furthermore, if a tax inspec-

tor has a specific area of a tax return in which he wants further information, will he raise every other conceivable question at the same time? We have already heard rumours that this may be likely and, if true, it will contribute to the risk of adversarial stances. Good relations between the

blunderbuss approach to tax collection. In my view, the selfassessment system may lead us down the road towards an

Revenue and the public can be

maintained only if the tax

inspectors go out of their way

for audit that the innocent

remain innocent until proven

guilty. In other words, that

selection for an audit does not

imply that errors have been made. They should never be

allowed to develop into a

adversarial situation. That is something we as a nation could well do without when we are about to enter the next millennium in a state of reasonable prosperity with high hopes for the nation's economic future.

A great many honourable and highly motivated professional people have worked together inside and outside government to create the sophisticated and, I would claim, highly efficient tax system that we have in Britain today.

The risk we face is that the current good relations we have between the taxed and the taxers will be spoilt by the remorseless generation of automatic fixed-interest penalties and interest charges by computer, and audits that will be worrying for the taxpayers selected. The Chartered Institute of Taxation will continue its discussions with the Revenue with a view to achieving a system that is as free as possible from conflict.

I would end by quoting John Ruskin: "Government and co-operation are in all things the laws of life: anarchy and competition the laws of death." It would be a great pity if the introduction of self-assessment spoilt the present good relations that exist between the Revenue and the tax profession and the public at large. It must not be allowed to do this the Chartered Institute of Taxation will do all it can to ensure that it does not.

The author is President of The Chartered Institute of Taxation

taxpayers equally. The evidence that it does not is framed on its own walls. In the Nelson Room, which is one of the grandest sections of Somerset House, it exhibits copies of the final statements of affairs for Jane Austen and Lord Nelson. Jane Austen was found to have died with £25 classified as "cash in house". Nelson left rather more. But his form was amended. The word "house" was crossed out

and "sea trunk" inserted.

ROBERT BRUCE

An obligatory review is the only answer

ROBERT.

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straitjacket. But if you provide simple guide-lines and ask that their spirit is observed most people either ignore them or, at the very best,

allow the issues to drift. This is what seems to be happening with the concept of operating and financial reviews (OFR). Theoretically, these should be the most useful parts of a set of annual report and accounts. They are intended to provide the sort of information that allows investors and analysts to make up their own minds. But, by their very nature, it would be hard to lay down exact information that companies should include in

So the Accounting Standards Board (ASB), wisely put forward the concept, and provided extensive guidance, but left it up to companies to get on with it. Good practice, it was felt. would be a better influence than the heavy hand of sub-section 4. paragraph 78a.

And, again theoretically, a good, extensive and articulate OFR would do wonders for a company. Anything that promoted greater understanding between a company and the investment community should, you would have thought, have been welcomed by companies generally.

But when reports and ac-counts are analysed, a different story comes to the surface. Company Reporting, an organisation based in Edinburgh, has looked at what 600 companies on its database have done about an OFR. And its report makes depressing reading. Quite rightly, it takes the ssence of the ASB's thinking.

as its benchmark. The purpose of the OFR is to "discuss and analyse the business's performance and the factors underlying its results and financial position, in order to assist users to assess for themselves the future potential of the business" and it "should include only matters that are likely to be significant to investors".

That is clear enough. A user of the account an institutional investor for example, should find information in the OFR that cannot be found elsewhere and which gives an indication of future performance. The content of the OFR will be clear, sharp, specific and focused. That, after all, is what analysts want.

Now read this section from the last report and accounts from Commercial Union. "New

It is tough being a regulator. If you provide solid financial reporting rules, companies complain that they have been locked in a strainacket Rule from the economic market and regulatory changes that are complain that they have been locked in a strainacket Rule from the economic market and regulatory changes that are supplied to the companies of the companies o market and regulatory changes that are occurring with increasing frequency in many parts of the world. I believe the group has the people with the skills to meet these new challenges and take advantage of new opportunities, thereby providing the progressive increase in shareholder value which is our aim." It puts you in mind of the old Lord Gnome editorials in *Private Eye* that would end a section of old trouser fiannel with a note to the sub-editors to insert another three paragraphs of the same old guff.

Or as Company Reporting says of the Commercial Union effort it "is typical of the kind of bland unsubstantiated optimism that, we are told, so annoys analysts".

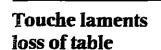
Company Reporting found little agreement among companies on what information they felt they should provide. Only two areas of information appeared in more than 50 per cent of company reports on its database - dis-cussions of the profit and loss account and

divisional analysis. Neither exactly comes under the heading of information that could not be gleaned from elsewhere in the report. "A simple restatement of figures included elsewhere in the financial statements does not add value for analysts." Company Reporting points out. The next most frequently provided information is that on treasury matters. which 35 per cent provide. As for risk, which you might have considered the key matter to be discussed in any OFR, only I per cent covered the topic, and then mostly from a treasury angle.

Company Reporting also contacted analysts to see what they thought of the value of OFRs. "The analysts that we spoke to," it said, "find that the volatile and

unstructured nature of the content of the OFRs detracts enormously from their value." Companies pay great lip-service to keeping institutional shareholders informed. But the reality is that they treat them with great cynicism. "It is hardly surprising," concludes Company Reporting, "that when given a free rein to include more or less what they want, companies will choose to disclose only those items that show them in a positive light."

There is only one answer. At the recent English ICA conference on corporate governance, Tom Ross, chairman of the National Association of Pension Funds, said that OFRs should be made obligatory.



THE "Big Six" accountancy firms seem to have got themselves into a terrible tangle over their annual figures. For vears they published a bodged statement of their fees in early June, and a league table was duly put together. However, in January, KPMG made its audit division a plc and unilaterally issued figures in a form of report and accounts. As a result, the other firms decided

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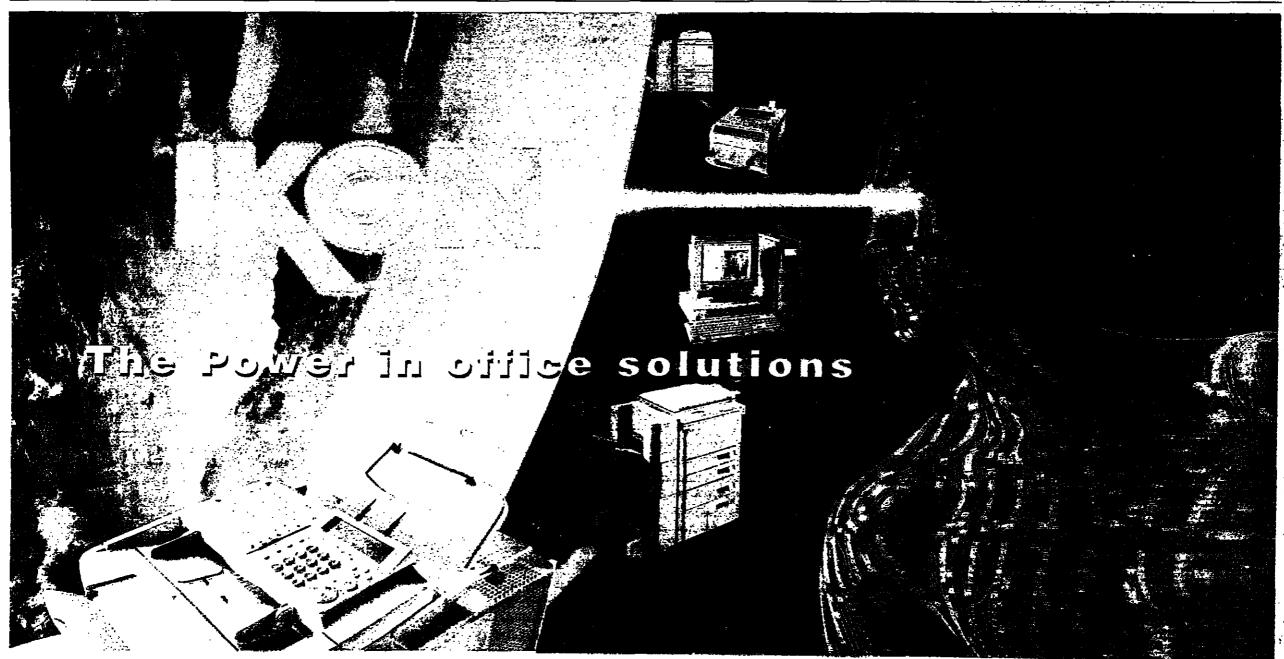
partnerships' minds. The

to stop publishing a league table in June. But their stand has rebounded. When Deloitte & Touche produced good strong figures last week it suggested that it might, at last, have overtaken Price Waterhouse. But as no one has seen any United Kingdom figures from Price Waterhouse for almost 18 months no one is any the wiser. Touche is

firm covers architects, surveyors, solicitors and engineers, ANYONE who doubts that as well as accountants. And the professions are doing the answer is mergers and acpretty well, whatever the quisitions. In the past two Budget may have done to years, 77 per cent considered a them, should look at the latmerger, while 91 per cent conest survey from Smith & Wilsidered an acquisition. liamson. One of its

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Michael Binyon, Diplomatic Editor, looks at how Gibraltar has cracked down on crime and is determined to stand on its own feet

The Rock shows a stiff upper lip

the new Chief Minister at this year's general election in Gibraltar. Relations with Joe Bossano, his predecessor, had become so strained that there was talk two years ago of Britain imposing direct rule on its last

remaining colony in Europe. Now. Britain believes, the Gibraltar Government is committed to firm action on the issues that were giving the Rock an unsavoury reputation: drug smuggling, money laundering and the re-export of

cut-price ciga-rettes to Spain. And when Jose Maria Aznar, the Spanish Prime Minister, began talks with John Major yesterday, Britain pointed to the new Gibraltar Government's determined efforts to crack down on all the

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Full agenda

illegal activities that had contrib-

uted to the latest confrontation with Spain. Mr Caruana freely admits that Gibraltar needed to change its laisser faire ways. The blind eye turned to the tobacco and drug smuggling by speedboats using Gibraltar harbour did the Rock enormous harm. "We were seen as a place that was off the rails

and off the tracks," he said. Recent legislation has not only tightened police surveillance, but has made it an offence even to keep such boats in harbour. Gibraltar is committed to cross-border co-operation with Spain to stop smuggling, has promised to enforce European Union directives to prevent money laundering and will clear the backlog of EU legislation that was making Gibraltar a loopwhich it is a full member. All this, the new Chief

Minister believes, should improve Gibraltar's relations with both Spain and Britain. For Mr Caruana has a full agenda of what he wants from both countries.

With Britain, which, as the colonial power, still has responsibility for Gibraltar's defence and foreign policy, the Chief Minister believes a change of constitutional relationship is now overdue. The dependent territory is already largely self-governing, but wants to remove

> all vestiges of colonial rule. This would mean a new constitution to reflect modern practices, a change in the Governor's powers and the ending of appointment by London unelected

inhabitants. "The ultimate test

is whether our consent would

be needed on any issue." Mr

For him, Gibraltar's long-

term future would be as a

permanently separate territo-

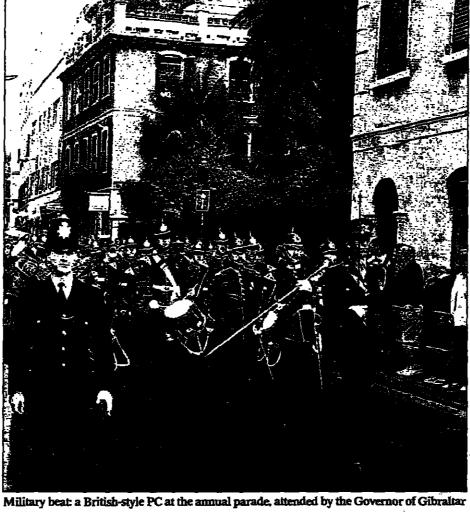
ry enjoying good relations

Caruana said.

Mr Caruana Peter Caruana: does not envisage complete in-

have no agenda for breaking the political links with London," he said on a recent visit here. "What we want is the process of decolonialisa-tion." He has in mind the kind of status now enjoyed by the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man. Gibraltar would remain within the EU, but only the 30,000 people living there could decide its future. Gibraltar insists that its

only in regaining sovereignty. sovereignty is non-negotiable. It also wants to exercise the right it obtained in the formuly that Spain still la devised by Douglas Hurd, the former Foreign Secretary. bargo on air and sea links, that it refuses to to make its voice heard in any Anglo-Spanish talks on its recognise Gibraltar as an integral part of the EU, and that future. The formula -- "two flags, three voices" - is being Madrid loses no chance to taken on the Rock as a way of thwart Gibraltar's attempts to become economically self-sufensuring that nothing is negotiated above the heads of the ficient. All this, he says, ham-



pers the efforts Gibraltar has made to find alternative employment after the rundown of the British forces. For whereas the Ministry of Defence ac-counted for 65 per cent of Gibraltar's economy a decade ago, the figure has fallen to 7

with Spain — a main plank of per cent and is to shrink to 5 per cent next year. Gibraltar is therefore seekhis electoral platform but one that he has found, to his frustration, hard to impleing to boost tourism, to become an international finance ment. Mr Caruana is deeply centre and to bolster its own pessimistic about relations with Madrid. He says he is industry. All this is hampered ready to build bridges, but by continuing tough controls at the border and by Spain's finds that Spain is interested refusal to recognise Gibral-

tar's identity cards.

For Spain, none of this touches on the central question: the return of Gibraltar to Spanish sovereignty. Senor Aznar acknowledges that Gibraltar has, at last, begun to crack down on smuggling. But he is unwilling to give Gibraltar any credit. For Madrid insists that there can be no the Rock: under the Treaty of Utrecht, which ceded sovereignty to Britain in 1713, Gibraltar must revert to Spanish control if Britain gives up its right to govern: there is no halfway house, as Gibraltar is now trying to negotiate.

pain has renounced the hardline ap-proach, symbolised by the total blockade imposed by Franco. It insists, however, that the so-called "Brussels talks", the regular discussions between London and Madrid on the Rock's future, must include the longterm question of sovereignty. And it believes it has the rest of the EU on its side.

The British, meanwhile, appear to be caught in the middle of the quarrel. There is an overriding British desire to improve relations with Madrid. But the Falklands have shown that doing so at the cost Gibraltar's wishes can backfire. Britain cannot negotiate away the sovereignty of its few remaining colonies

New challenge as the * colony goes upmarket

ibraltar is investing millions in pursuit of quality tourism and developing its role as a financial centre. Much of the money is being spent upgrading hotels and airport and port facilities to broaden the Rock's appeal to the well-beeled visitor.

The reality for the Rock is that it is so small in the global tourism market that failure and success are very close to each other. But a distinct optimism in the industry is ulling all sectors together. Yacht marinas have got to-gether to project themselves and value for money has become a watchword.

In the painful transition from a public to private sector economy there are signs that investment is about to pay dividends. Peter Montegriffe the Minister heading the Department of Trade and Industry, points out that any visitor will see that Gibraltar's potential is remarkable.

"We are growing and there fore willing to give good investors the red carpet treatment they would not get in more saturated locations," he says. "Gibraltar is already a very attractive location for people who want to manufacture or export on a preferen-tial basis outside high-tax

jurisdiction.' In the Sixties, Gibraltan along with Tangier, enjoyed a Dominique

Searle on a £5.2m revival for the Rock

tors attracted by its casinos. But that slumped when Gen-eral Franco closed the border. Spain liberalised and tourism boomed so that it has been difficult for Gibraltar to compete just to fill its 1,200 beds. Joe Holliday, the aptly named Tourism Minister, elected with the Gibraltar

Social Democrats last May, is a businessman who has vowed to spend the next four years turning Gibraltar's tour-ism around. The sum of £5.2 million out of a £72 million Government budget is being invested to promote the Rock and to refurbish access points

Mr Holliday is concentrating on making the airport attractive and efficient, and is pressing the Ministry of Dence to lower landing charges so flight prices can drop. Travel will get a boost in the spring when Monarch Airlines starts a scheduled service from Luton, and GB Airways expands its daily services from Heathrow and

ers have been set up and a new terminal built to make the passengers' arrival amid the mayhem of an industrial dockside a thing of the past.

Almost complete now is a refurbishment of Main Street. which traditionally labelled itself the Oxford Street of the Costa del Sol, but is soon to acquire a Covent Garden look. That concept is central to

Gibraltar's tourism plan. The great benefit of having been a garrison until recently is that there are vast properties which lend themselves to touristic conversion. An amazing Royal Navy victualling yard, emptied of its food and Navy rum, is currently home to a touring exhibition on Ancient China.

Doised on a precipice above Rosia Bay, where Lord Nelson kept his fleet before Trafalgar and where his body was returned en route for burial in Britain. the plan is to turn the garrison into a maritime museum.

Miles of tunnels, former military walks in the nature reserve, weapons stores and grand colonial buildings are in line for imaginative projects. Even the apes are enjoying the buzz.

Former Navy vaults are to be converted to cottage industries. One already houses a successful traditional



in Parliament keeps a close watch on Anglo-Spanish talks. Taking the cable car to see the apes is one of the traditional townist trips on Gibraltar

enough to cope

enough to care

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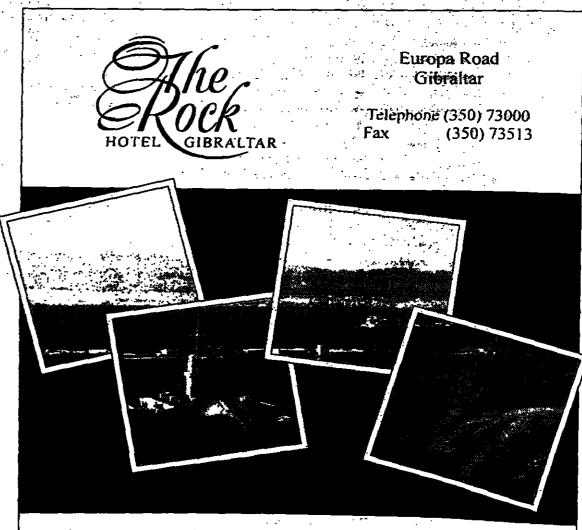
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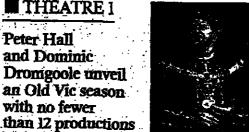
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THEATRE 1 Peter Hall and Dominic Dromgoole unveil an Old Vic season with no fewer



■ THEATRE 2 ... while in Stratford the RSC struggles to enliven Shakespeare's tame Henry VIII

THE



VISUAL ART Our daily series

on the V&A's Silver Galleries continues with the stunning Merode Cup



RISING STAR

Simon Smith has won a major playwriting award, but awaits a first performance

THEATRE: Benedict Nightingale on Peter Hall's ambitious new London project; and a Stratford opening

Old Vic, new direction

ir Peter-Hall, 66 just last week, has conceded it may be "my last hang up my clogs". Well, the Times sponsored season of nunce today could make hefty demands on your footwear and mine, too. We will need to tramp up the Waterloo between March and December 1997 if we are to catch Felicity Kendal and Michael Pennington in Granville-Barker's Waste, Alan Howard and Ben Kingsley in Waiting for Godot, and the other four revivals and six new plays that Hall and his deputy, Dominic Dromgoole, are presenting at

the Old Vic. This is a project which should send plenty of adrenalin coursing round the ailing arteries of London's commercial theatre. It will allow some of the new young playwrights who emerged when Dromgoole was running the tiny Bush to prove that they have the imaginative size for a 1,000 seat Victorian theatre. It will give Hall the chance to put together the kind of acting ensemble he created at the RSC in the 1960s, but could never recreate when he moved to the vast concrete canyons of the National. Not least, it will bring London something close to round the clock rep - and with a top ticket of £19, and special concessions for Times readers car sub-West End

The designer John Gunter is reparing a blue box for the Old Vic stage that will evoke anything from the sky to the valls of a living-room. Within this will be a wooden platform,

slightly thrust into the audito-rium, that can be left empty, filled with chairs and tables, or furnished in some odd, nonnaturalistic style. It will allow sets to be changed in just one hour, and that will enable Hall to schedule up to ten plays in a week that will often include matinee and evening performances on Sundays. By late next autumn, when what Hall hopes will be the

ending, openings will have ranged from the Alan Howard 6 If we have a policy, it's

first of several seasons will be

abundance and diversity ?

Lear to David Rabe's Hurlyburly, a satiric picture of the Hollywood jungle performed in New York by Sigourney Weaver and William Hurt from Hall's Godot to Grace Note by Samuel Adamson.

Though Dromgoole is exactly half Hall's age, the two men have discovered their likes and dislikes to be pretty similar. "We're against showy, decorative theatre and also against the idea that to be radical you have to shock, shock, shock," says Drumgoole, who is responsible for the new plays. The dramatists here are trying to be radically intelligent, radically humane, radically generous. "If we have a policy, it's revivals are concerned, I'm only interested in classics that I think have something to say to an audience at this minute."

Hence the choice of Waste to launch the season on March 4. Back in 1907 the play was banned, thanks to its candour about sex and politics. Twenty years later Granville-Barker radically rewrote it, but until now his revised version has been neglected. "It's about sleaze and the disintegration of government," says Hall. "In general election year it bould be an absolute

or will Felicity Kendal's appearance in this be a one-off. Though each new play will be cast separately, the revivals will draw on a pool of performers eventually likely to number up to 25. Hall knows that only if actors commit themselves for three plays or more can he begin to create something that no longer exists at the National, and has become increasingly elusive at the RSC: an ensemble.

"If you are working with people who know each other well, you can take more risks, work quicker, go deeper, push things further," says Hall. "You can give actors more opportunities and cast against expectation and type. In the early days of the RSC, who would have thought that the 5ft Ian Holm could play Prince Hal, or a Rank starlet called Donald Sinden would be the Duke of York, or Peggy Ashcroft could take Queen Margaret in The Wars of the Roses from the age of 17 to 75?



Peter Hall and (left) his deputy. Dominic Dromgoole: a simple new stage design will allow them to schedule up to ten plays in a week, including Sundays

afternoon and baddies in the

evening."
During 1997 we will see both the exciting young newcomer Victoria Hamilton and the veteran Geraldine McEwan. And who knows, they may be back again in 1998 and 1999 alongside Dame Judi Dench, who has displayed an interest in joining the ensemble. The impresario David Mirvish is presenting Hall and Dromgoole with the Old Vic and a production budget of some £700,000; but they will have to fill 65 per cent of seats if they are to break even. "It's a huge, huge risk," says Hall. "If I don't cover costs in the first year, there won't be a second."

Yet already the season is

going to be three months ago, when the plays and ensemble were expected to number 10 and 15 respectively. Indeed, the directors are talking of taking over a second but smaller theatre in order to present two new plays they cannot fit into their existing plans. But at the moment

persuading audiences - "and we want theatregoers of all ages, the young who go to the fringe, older people who find the West End a nightmare, everyone" - to come once or twice a month to the Old Vic will be challenge enough. But both men seem avid for

the fray. For Dromgoole, it is a chance to take striking new work "away from small boxes

marginalised". For the former director of the National, it means plenty too.

"It means not having to close the theatre for days when you want to do a new play, not spending a great deal of money tearing down sets, not having to ask an actor to play Lear twice on the same day. It means staying in one place, being able to rehearse there, managing with a minute organisation, going to the pub with the company for lunch. not having a canteen committee and, thank God, not having to read the canteen committee's notes."

■ Times readers can obtain prior ity booking and special offers for the Old Vic season. Details will

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

SIMON SMITH

Age: 27. Profession: Playwright. Background: "I studied directing at Dartington College, but when I left I realised that I was just another director with no experience."

Current project: Smith has recently won the international Playwriting Festival's first prize for his first play. Heir To The Estate.

What's it about? "It's set on New Year's Eve 1979, and it's didn't manage to adapt to

the coming years. Some people find it very Ortonesque, but I didn't really want that."

What did the judges like about it? They liked the play's "blackly comic dialogue, the vivid wholeheartedness of the characterisation, the gentle workings of the political allegory and the extraordinary fluency of the narrative". So far it has only had a reading, but the Croydon Warehouse has the first

What next? "I look after our three-year-old son Oliver, so I find it difficult to concentrate, but I'm interested in doing something about our obsession with the millennium. And I might like to write screenplays one day."

GUY WALTERS

The one where Will keeps his head

ohody knows wheth-er Shakespeare wrote much, little or none of Henry VIII, or, assuming he had a collaborator, whether this was Fletcher or someone else. My own theory is that the Bard was so embarrassed by the task he had undertaken that he launched every now and then into Dalek-verse, by way of disguising his involve-

THE

TONDON

Aimeida Theatre (Dec 10, 13)

● TICKETS £12.50 (normally £16.50) for Jonathan Miller's

production of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream. Tel 0171-359 4404

MEET Lynn Redgrave after seeing her highly rated one-woman show, Shakespeare for

my Father. Tickets £19 (nor-mally £24). Tel 0171-930 8800

TWO 17 tickets for the price of one to Dickens's A Christmas

Pomegranate Theatre (Dec 4-5)

TICKETS 14 (pormally 16) to
Mike Stours adult drama, The

MacRobert Arts Centre (Dec 5)

TICKETS ES mormally E10)

Fancy Man. Tel 01246 345722

BIRMINGHAM

(Dec 28-29; Jan 6-11)

CHESTERFIELD

STIRLING

Carol. Tel 0121-643 5858

Theatre Royal, Haymarket

Henry VIII Swan, Stratford

ment. After all, he had to deal in upbeat, celebratory fashion with the father and mother of the great queen who had died only nine years before. What was he to make of the fact that the one had cut off the other's

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weekend, Theatre Club

members in thrall to

Terpsichore can enjoy the best of dance in two very different moods. Your hotel, the four-star Mount-

batten Hotel in Covent

Garden, is just a short stroll from the Royal Op-era House where, on the

for the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of The Comedy of Errors. Tel 01786

Theatr Clwyd (Dec 2-23)
TWO adults or children's tickets for the price of one (normally E7 to E13) to Hans

Christian Andersen's The Snow Queen. Tel 01352 755114

Dance away

evening of Friday, January 17, the curtain will go up on the Royal Ballet's Sleeping Beauty. Then, after a Saturday spent at the

January sales, sightseeing or taking advantage of special half-price admission to the Theatre Museum and the Museum of the Moving Image, it's off to west London for the last London performance of Riverdance. Then back to the Mounthatien for support and cabaret. After heads to the Mounthatien for support and cabaret after the support of the support o

breakfast on Sunday there's a fascinating guided tour of Theatreland, and the weekend ends with tea and scones

back at the hotel. The fully inclusive cost is £199 per person. To book, ring Centre Stage on 0800 335588

MOLD

BRACKNELL

Wilde Theatre

BRIGHTON

SWANSEA

(Dec 7, 14, 21, 11am)

Dome Theatre (Jan 1-5)

Grand Theatre (Dec 6-7)

head, and kept on marrying and murdering after that? The short answer is: nothing. The play stops at the moment of Elizabeth's baptism, which is accompanied by general rejoicing and episcopal prophecies of wonders to come. In the last production I saw, Henry and Anne Bo-leyn or (as she is called here) Bullen clustered round the baby in a sentimental display

of family togetherness. Gregory Doran's revival for the RSC is more pointed if less Shakespearean. Scarcely has David Collings's Cranmer finished his patriotic bleatings than Claire Marchionne's black-gowned Anne appears wraith-like behind Paul Jesson's big, smiling Henry. She apprehensively touches her neck, he looks a mite

Well, well. Dr Johnson was

worried: finis.

probably right when he said that "the play keeps possession of the stage by reason of its pageantry" and not hugely exaggerating when he added that "the meets of Vatherine virtuous distress of Katherine have furnished some scenes which may be justly num-bered among the greatest efforts of tragedy. Pageantry is not what one associates with the Swan. But Doran puts Henry and his court in their cloth-of-gold mode when he can, opening the big rear doors to show a gilded horse, Anne with a shimmering coronation train, and glister

He is also lucky to have a fine Katherine of Aragon in Jane Lapotaire, who brings patience, dignity and, in her

galore.



Paul Jesson as Henry, with Jane Lapotaire as Katherine, and Ian Hogg as Wolsey

final encounter with Cardinal Wolsey, a moving mix of queenly outrage and simple pain. Here Shakespeare reveals himself, as he surely also does in some of the scenes involving the "scarlet Satan" himself, played by Ian Hogg as the Ipswich butcher's son in excelsis: which means he has a very odd accent and the massive confidence of someone who can deal with whatever is waiting for him in the slaughterhouse, whether it is a bull or an English lord. The play is episodic, but the episodes have purpose. Proud

men — Buckingham, Wolsey — discover humility in disaster. Jesson's splendidly bluff, blunt King learns to see through fake and value honesty. Yet a good cast and capable direction cannot diguise the fact that here and elsewhere the Bard, or Ur-Bard, is tying himself in some pretty comical knots in order to say the tactful thing. The principals are all relent-lessly goodmouthed. Every-

one, including Anne, is nice about Katherine. Everyone is nice about Anne, calling her "virtuous" and "complete in

mind and feature". Likewise, but more so, with Henry and the infant Elizabeth. I must admit to being slightly sicken-ed by all this post-hoc propagandising. Indeed, it leaves me wondering about the cannon that set the original Globe Theatre on fire at the premiere of a play that, believe it or not, was then titled All Is True. Was that cannon just a cannon? No, it was an historian, moralist

> BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

A WEEKIN SILVER

A daily guide to the new Silver Galleries at the Victoria and Albert Museum

The Merode Cup

MADE in France, probably between 1400 and 1420, this magnificent piece was presumably intended solely for display, and would have been extremely costly. It owes its name to the Mérode family of Belgium, which sold it in 1828. However, it may have been made for Jean; Duc de Berri - a great medieval patron of the arts whose court rivalled that of the King. An inventory shows that in 1417 he had such a cup in his collection.

jour was the most difficult enamel technique because it involved firing the glass into cells and removing the backing to create an effect like a stained-glass window. The delicately rendered flowers and birds are achieved by a technique known as pouncing, using very fine punches.

plaques, the sole surviving medieval

• The Silver Galleries, Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road,

TOMORROW: Condiment Vessels by Diana Greenwood



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TWO tickets for the price of one (normally £6 to £7) for The Sleeping Beauty. Tel 01344 SAVE El on tickets inormally to to El0.50) to The Wind in the Willows. Tel 01273 709709 TICKETS E7 (normally £9.50) to see cornedian John Sparkes. Tel 01792 475715

TO JOIN, either send a cheque for E12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, P.O. Box 2164, Colchester CO2.81L, or Made of silver-gilt, the cup has translucent plique à jour enamel London SW7 (0171-938 8441) telephone 01206 225145 using your credit card

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts

and entertalnment compiled by Gillian Maxey

Symphony Hall, Broad Street (0121-212 3333) Torught, Spm. (2)

GLASGOW The BBC Scottlish
Symphony Orchestra performs lives is
The Unanswered Question and two
peoses by its chansmain: associate
composer-conductor Tan Dun.
Including his Guitar Concern (solors)
Sharon Isbrin Dun is Orchestral Theutre
Ill attentives open its world premiser at

Sharon Isbini Dunis Circhostral Incurre III, which was given its world premiore at the ongoing Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival, lodows With Susan Bottl, soprano Transmary, Albert Drive (0141-227 5511), Tongott, 7 30pm

LANCASTER Yan Pascal Tortober conducts the BBC Philhermonic, this season's orchestra in residence, in a reperture with an international flavour

Benio: S tollowed by Beethoven's Plano Concerto No 2 (colorst Martin Roscoe), Walton's Second Symphony

Hospital Sparia Lancaster University, Bailingg (01524 593729/32878) Tonghi, 7,30pm.

THEATRE GUIDE

LIVERPOOL: Everymen Theatre presents a heady cochtail of music.

M House full, returns only
Some seets available
Seats at all prices

reperions with an internation Redioz's swashbucking Wa



CHOICE 2

dance and comedy in its history not in roll partonime, Clinderella, Exerginani, Hope Street (1951-708 038) Opens longfit, 7-30pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7-30pm regular mats (ring for details). Until January 25

NORWICH: Malcolm Bradbury's first sage play, Inside Trading, distantly derived from the 1930s his corredy youth at the Helm, and set in a modern merchant bank where a plausible

merchant bank where a plausible young man can do very well, for a while Playhouse, St George's Street (01603 76:466) Opens Longht, 8pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mals Wed and Sat. 2 30pm. Until December 14.

Bedales. Stephame Carlton Smith:
glasswork. (0171-357 0625) . British
Museum, Mystenes of Ancient Chris
(0171-836 1559) . Centrel Saint
Bartins College of Art and Design:
Foundation Show (0171-514 7000)
Curreen: H - Duter Petschi
"Junctures" - Recent Works (0171-636
1459) Festives Half, Masks '99
10171-636 0242) Harriet Green
Moy Keigntey, Small Painongs of
Icoland (0171-287 8328) . Lieuwillyn
Alessander: A Festa of Food of Art
(0171-620 1322) Portal Portal
Palmes Christinas Esthadion (0171493 0706) Royal College of Art
"Lensangion Goos" (0171-690 4444)
Tate: The 1936 Turner Prace Esthation
(0171-837 8000) Y & A. American
photography 1830-1965 (0171-938 8500)

LONDON GALLERIES

Inside Trading, by Malcolm Bradbury, is staged in Norwich VENUE: Opens tonight at the Playhouse

THE

NEW ON VIDEO

JONATHAN HARVEYS hit

sports-loving boy next door.

CARNIVAL OF SOULS

Unknown director Herk

Hervey has imagination in

plenty and generates an origi-nal ghoulish chill, though the

film remains essentially dou-

MASOCHISTS may enjoy

renting this unpleasant thrill-er about an agoraphobic crim-

inal psychologist battling with

a serial killer. The rest of us

will probably appreciate the professional polish of director

Jon Amiel, but will squirm at

the sight of Sigourney Weaver,

Encore, 15, 1962

ble-bill fodder.

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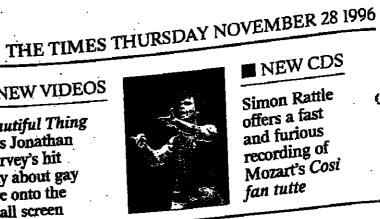
Warner, 18, 1996

■ BEAUTIFUL THING Film Four, 15, 1996



■ NEW VIDEOS Beautiful Thing

puts Jonathan Harvey's hit play about gay love onto the small screen



■ NEW CDS Simon Rattle offers a fast and furious recording of Mozart's Cosi

fan tutte

<u>LONDON</u>

CECILE OUSSET. The popular French prants offers a programme of romantic music by Chopin Rachmannov, Faunt and Debus 7/ Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street WI (0171-935 2141) (5)

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM. A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.

Jonathan Miller stages his first play in Britain for se years An interesting cast is hoaded by Norman Rodway and Angela Thome as the royal immortals, with Peter Bayliss as Bodom Set dosigns by the Quay Brothers

Almeldis, Almeids Street, NI 10171-359 44041 Presens begin broight, 7 30pm Opers December 11 7pm Then Mortsat, 7 30pm, mat Sat, 3 30pm, Until February 1

TROMUSE AND CRESSIDA Joseph

TROILUS AND CRESSIDA Joseph Fiernes and Victoria Hamilton play the formented lovers in lan Judge's admired production. Great cast Includes Civie Francis, Richard McCabe and Patter Vices. Philip Vors Barbican, Sill Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891) Previews begin toraght, 7pm Opens December 4, 7pm. Then in rep

ELSEWHERE BIRMINGHAM Martin Schebesta directs the celebrated Vienna Boya Choir in a selection of choal awountes including waltzes and polikas by Strauss and tredinorial Austrian

SI LE CERCLE INVISIBLE: Victoria Chapin and Jean-Baptiste Thierred return with their strange and dreamine evocation of the erris of circus. Mermatid, Puddie Dock, Basetonars, ECA (0171: 236 2211) Opens tongrit, fpm Then Tue-Sat, 7 30pm, mat Sun, 4pm Also peris on Dec 23, 30, 7 30pm, and mats on Dec 24, 26, 31, Jen 1, 4pm

TI THE CHERRY ORCHARD
Tramendous RSC cast, headed by
Penelope Wilton, Alec McCowen and
Dawd Troughton, in a production by
Adnan Noble considered the best in

living memory Albery, St Markin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730) Mon-Sat, 7 30pm; mars Wed and Sat, 3pm

In the ELEVENTH
COMMANDMENT Commissioned play from cornectian David Schneider in which he plays a single man nerving thread to tell his mother (Snella Sleale) he lancies a grid who tan't nice and Joveth, Matthew Lloyd directs Hampeteod, Swiss Cottage Centre, NMC (0171-722 9301) Previous bogin tongist, April. Opens Dec 4, 7pm Then Mon-Sat. Spm, mat Sat, 3 30pm

MOT-Sa. spin CIPES Sam Wohers drects a forgotten Aydoboum, with Mark Yangston and Autol Smith playing the parents of three daughters attached to different men in each act Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Rehmond (0181-940 3633), Previews begin torught, 7,45pm Opens Dec 2.

NEW RELEASES

■ HAMLET Michael Majorey a protountly incestuous Prince in Philip Franks's modern dress production Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE 10 (0181-

7 45pm Then Mon-Sat, 7 45pm, mats Thurs (Dec 19, Jan 2, 9, 16, 23) 2 30pm, Fn (Dec 27, Jan 3) 4pm; Sat 4pm Uniti

Greenwich, Crooms Hill, Scio (5131-858 7755) Mon-Sat, 7 45pm; mat Sat, 2 30pm, Unit November 30 2 30pm. Unto Veneratas

S. JOHN GABRIEL BORKOMAN
Richard Eyre directs Paul Scofield,
Vanessa Redgrave Eileen Albris and
Michael Bryant in Ibsen's play
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1
(0171-928 2252) Tonight-Sat, 7 30pm;
mai Sat, 2 15pm; In rep. (5) mai Sal. 2 19pm in rep. (b)

MRS WARRIEN'S PROFESSION
Maggio Stoed in the inte role, with
Catherine Cusack, as her outlayed
daughter in Ned Burden's cast
production of Shaw's 1833 shocker
Lyric, King Street, W6 (0181-741
2311) Mon-Sal. 7 30pm, mars Sal.
2 30pm Final week, (b) M THE NUN: Greenwich Studio Theatre in Exter revives Margaret Forsyth's impressive production of Deterol's study of pair and passion behind the convent wells BAC, Lavender Hil, SM11 (0171-223 2223), Tue-Sat, 7-30pm; Surt, 5-30pm

SCROOGE. Anthony Newley back on the West End stage singing the inte role in the Leake Brousse musical Dominition, Tonenham Court Road, W1 (0171-536 2295), Mon-Sat, 7 30pm, mais Thurs, Set, 3pm

mats Thurs, Set, 3pm

I SWANWHITE Directional debut for actor Timothy Walter in the British premiete of Standberg's fally tale. Julea Melvin plays the princess whose love can save her doorned prince Gete, Pembridge Road, WITI (0171-229 0706). Premiews toright, 7 30pm Opens tomorow, 7 30pm Ther. Mon-Set, 7 30pm Until December 21

LONG RUNNERS □ Suddy: Stand (0171-930 8800)
□ Cets New London (0171-805 0072)
□ An Ideal Husband: Old Vic (0171-928 7616)
□ An Inspector Calls:
Gardd, (0171-894 5085)
□ Les
Missérables: Palace (0171-434 9909)
□ Misse Salgon Dury Lane (0171-494 5400)
□ Misse Salgon Dury Lane (0171-494 Adelphi (0171-344 0055)
□ The
Woman in Black: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

AMERICAN BUFFALO (15) A Director, Muchael Corrents no (0171–137 0757)

GABBEH Beautiful poets transan film about nomadic carpet weavers. Directo o Mal-hma ICA (0171-930 3547) KANSAS CITY (15): Too much arbice in Robert Altman's tale of crime and jazz in 1930s Kansas City With Jenniler Jason Leigh, Miranda Richardson and Harry Relationte.

CURRENT Harry Botalonte
ABC Shafteshury Avenue (0171-836
6279) Chebses (0171-351 3742)
Ctophen Picture House (0171-496
3323) Everyman (5) (0171-435 1525) WER RELIABLE (15); Petry criminal becomes to the nero in tale-1960's Sydney for the country with Coin.

becomes the next in last properties the properties and Jacqueine McKenze. Drecty, Narda 1255. ASC Totherham Court Road (0171-836 6142; Barbicon (9) (0171-939) 2777. ABC Tottenham Court Read (0.771-536 61-2) Barbicon (5.0171-533 3821) MGM Baker Street (0.771-335 3772) Odeon Kensington (0.1426 51-5560) Pisca (5.7959 382-95) UCI Whiteleys (5.7950 882-95) Worter Fullham Read (0.771-379 2636) Warner (5.0171-4.37

THE SUNCHASER (15). A teenings or minal and spagns decorated as a source (of decorate). Protections (case)

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CINEMA GUIDE

movie from Michael Cimino with Woody Harrelson and Jon Seda Virgin Chelsea (0171-352 5096) Trocadero (§ (0171-434 (031) Wenner

 BRASSED OFF (15) Yorkshire collery band fights for sunwal Sugary comedy with a few drops of vinegar. With Pete Possertware, True Fagerald ABC Tothenheim Court Road (0171-256 6148) Empire (0800-888 911) Odeons: Kensington (01426-914 666) Odeons: Kensington (01425-914 666. Odeons: Kensington (01425-914 666. (0171-737-2121) UCI Whiteleys (0171-737-2121) UCI Whiteleys (0171-737-2121) UCI Whiteleys (0171-737-2121) UCI Whiteleys (0171-737-7421-7421-7421-7421 19399 688*99*91 **V**1 19171-839 1527)

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◆ DRAGONHEART (PG) Paictwork ◆ DRAGONHEART (PG) Patchwork medieval tantasy about a longht and a dragon with Sean Conney's votce With Dermis Chard, director. Rob Cohen Pleza ⊚ (0990 888990) UCI Whiteleya ⊚ (0990 888990) Virgin Trocadero ⊚ (0171-434 0031)

◆ ENIMA (U): Gwyneith Pailtrow shunes in a sure Austral Business of the pretty-pretty
MGM Piccadilly (0171-437 3561)
Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666)
Mezzanine (5) (01426 915683)

JUDE (15) Vigorously depressing version of Hardy's novel about dashed hopes and dool love, with Christopher Ecideston and Kate Winslot ABC Tottlenham Court Road (0171-ABC Tottlenham Court Road (0171-ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) Odeon Mezzanine (01426 ◆ TRUE BLUE (15). Charlots of Fire on

 THUE BLUE (15), Chanots of Fire on the River Tharnes' a conventional account of the 1937 mutiny among Oxford's boat race team. With Johan Leysen and Domanc West. Oxfords: Kensington (01-26-91-4666) Lateaster Square (01-26-91-3653) Series Cottage (01-26-91-3653) Screen/Balzer Street (01-71-352-772) Virgin Choleses (01-71-352-5696). WHEN THE CAT'S AWAY (15) Sensitive French Ivm about a young Parcian (Garance Claud) searching the cat and a meaning to life Director Cédec Marciant Cédic Mapisch Curzon Maytair (0171-763 1720) Renoir (0171-337 8402)

play of 1994 becomes a gauche but warm-hearted film. Gay sex blooms between two teenage boys on a London estate where flowers, not graffiti, adorn the walls. Stage director Hettie Macdonald shows little feeling for cinema, but she appreciates the material's wit



Tender touch: Glen Berry dances with Scott Neal in Hettie Macdonald's Beautiful Thing book, the film imagines the

trussed up in a ladies' loo or reduced to jelly by a bedful of ants. You have to go back to The Silence of the Lambs to find a film that takes such delight in contemplating human cruelty.

■ KINGPIN Entertainment Video, 12, 1996 A LUCKLESS hustler who lacks a right hand goes on the road with an Amish innocent with a knack for bowling. Are you laughing yet? This idiot comedy from the team responsible for Dumb & Dumber

proudly plumbs the depths of bad taste, and never knows when to stop. Bill Murray gets most of the laughs going. though the main stars are Woody Harrelson and Randy Quaid. Available to rent.

PRINCESS IN LOVE Arena Home Entertainment,

COLLECTORS of trashy movies may possible find a home for this latest American recreation of the woes of the House of Windsor. Based on Anna Pasternak's fatuous

Princess of Wales's secret romance with James Hewitt (bed scenes included). The actors bear no resemblance to their real-life equivalents: the dialogue is pure Mills & Boon; and the director, oh dear, is the once-interesting David Greene. You can laugh for a while ("Plants need encouragement," says Charles, "So do people," says Diana), but like all such movies it eventually becomes a bore.

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epitome of the strong woman, NEW CLASSICAL CDs: Szymanowski's folk song and myth; Rattling Così efforts to compensate by over-00310 playing do not help.

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nowski's last large-scale score (he died in 1937). This too is in

Lydia Mordkovitch is a passionate advocate of both works, infusing her line with soulful nostalgia and ecstatic

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John Higgins

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ALL-ROUND applause greeted Simon Rattle's concert performances of Cost with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment a year ago. The recording drawn from the second of those evenings works less well.

The Rattle game plan is clear. Take two well-matured singers for Alfonso and Despina and assign the lovers to a younger generation. Thomas Allen's philosopher is the star of the set. Ann Murray's lady's maid is its weakness. Her voice is at times uncomfortably hard and

Rattle goes for a soprano Dorabella in Alison Hagley. which has the advantage of the sisters sounding like sisters and the disadvantage of making them too alike. She and Hillevi Martinpelto (Fiordii zart style but they cannot match Renée Fleming and Anne Sofie von Otter with Solti on Decca, another live performance. The two suitors, Kurt Streit and Gerald Finley. both give winning performances; the tenor especially has a fleet, sweet voice. Both put up resistance to Rattle's

ers. They must be, to take the overture at this gallop. A Cost for Rattle fans and those who like Mozart fast and furious.

*** Worth buying

Thumbs up for Warhol

Every week, young film fans discuss the new cinema releases

☐ I SHOT ANDY

Ben Peters, 22: This is a supreme period piece. The parties, the characters and the sets are so realistic it feels like

Lucy Knight, 22: Lili Taylor was stunning — I expect we'll see a lot more of her. However, too much of the film was obsessed with setting.

Richard Wright, 20: This captures the time and place really well - not that I was gripped the whole way through Realistic and a lot more than that - it was very

☐ THE LONG KISS GOODNIGHT

moving too.

Ben: One of the few action films more explosive than its trailers. Samuel L. Jackson is as tip top as he was in Pulp Fiction - one of the few actors who look as though they really know how to use a gun. Lucy: If you like your violence

mindless and don't care for subtle scripts then this is for you. Nevertheless, it would be churlish not to see the fun in films like this. Richard: Although it didn't

live up to its promise to be the ultimate action film, it was still way better than most. Holly: Definitely a "bloke film, but I still found it a lot of fun. Geena Davis was a great heroine for both boys and girlsuu

Ben: Like The Commitments and Hear my Song, this is an Irish comedy that is fun to watch, but leaves no lasting impression.

Lucy: Mostly a "feel-good" film, but it tries to say serious things about unemployment. It shouldn't have bothered -the humour is enough. Richard: I enjoyed this, but I doubt I would normally have

show on TV. Holly: This had me laughing a lot. The scenes in the van itself were extremely well done - strongly recommended for just about anybody.

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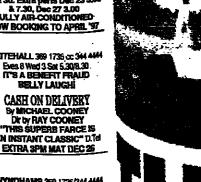
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Plenty of saucy thrills and spills for Geena Davis in The Long Kiss Goodnight





FILM 3

The Van. Roddy Doyle's sardonic view of Dublin life, transfers disappointingly to the screen



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... while *Le* Bonheur is a French comedy chiefly notable for an appearance by Eric Cantona

Walkers on the wild side

CINEMA: Geoff Brown is blown away by the brilliance of Lili Taylor in I Shot Andy Warhol

very other film poster in town seems to feature people gri-macing in tight clothing and brandishing a gun. This week the people are women. In the brilliant and surprising I Shot Andy Warhol, Lili Taylor's fingers are on the trigger as Valerie Solanas, the woman who fired bullets into the laid-back guru of modern art at his Factory headquarters in 1968. Solanas, played by Taylor with mesmerising skill, is presented as a hyperactive woman boiling with rage. She scowls and smokes non-stop. Her words tumble out at breakneck speed as she harangues passers-by, or badgers Warhol about producing her feminist play Up Your Ass. Harron's film never scorns the humour in the situations, but it remains locked into the heroine's aggression, crystallised by the manifesto Solanas generated to promote Scum, her one-woman Society for Cut-

ting Up Men.
Where did this extraordinary person come from, and how did she brush against the Warbol entourage? Ĥarron, a Canadian-born director of British television arts documentaries, proposes some fascinating answers, weaving in and out of Solanas's disturbed childhood, her friendship with the transvestite Candy Darling, her contact with the publisher Maurice Girodias. and her frowning presence on

the Factory's fringes. Taylor's performance, gripping enough, acquires extra force when placed next to Jared Harris's Warhol, uncannily close to the original in appearance and vocal tones.

र जनाः ४७ ∡र

Words erupt from Solanas like ammunition from a machinegun; sometimes the most this drugged-out Warhol can say is "Oh. er". Rage versus vacuity: the conflict generates incredible tension, and much inciden-

tal comedy. The suspicion persists that the genuine Warhol was always more knowing than Harris's bemused empty vessel. But Harron still provides a convincing portrait of an era and a mindser, and the supporting cast, from Lothaire Bluteau's sleazy Girodias to the decorative beauties at Warhol's Factory, slots into place with wit and precision. It is Taylor's film, though: she makes her impassioned, deluded Solanas a near-tragic figure, crushed by the force of her own beliefs.

The Long Kiss Goodnight serves up its own kind of spectacle. Bodies explode and cascade. There are spectacular

thrills with knives, guns, cars and Niagara Falls. And Geena Davis. Dressed in nothing but a white slip, she is tortured on a waterwheel, like an old-time serial heroine. Later, she gets locked in a freezer, wearing equally spartan clothing. The director, I suppose, is allowed to ogle: he's her husband, Renny Harlin, last seen falling flat on his face in Cutthroat Island. But you get my point: The Long Kiss Goodnight takes place on the far side of

the preposterous. The film's cheeky excess goes some way to soften the slick, casual violence and the lack of imagination. And Samuel L. Jackson warms the temperature with his characterisation of Mitch, the smalltime detective hired to dig into Davis's mysterious past. Could this cheerful loser with sloppy clothes and a tart tongue actually be a human being? Certainly he comes as

I Shot Andy Warhol Virgin Haymarket Roddy Doyle's novel 18. 106 mins falls flat on the screen Vivid performances in a powerful portrait of an era

Goodnight Odeon West End · 18. 120 mins Cheeky mayhem with Geena Davis

The New Film by Stephen Frears

A Midsummer Night's Dream Barbican, U. 105 mins Too much theatre. too little magic

The Long Kiss

ings stunted. The Van Odeon Leicester Square 15, 100 mins

Le Bonheur Curzon Mayfair 15, 106 mins French comedy trifle **Beautiful Girls** Warner West End 15, 113 mins Wearisome males

Dracula: Dead and Loving It Warner West End PG, 90 mins Unfunny Mel Brooks



close as anyone in Shane Black's computerised script, which created a storm two years when it was sold for a princely \$4 million. But you are still left with a particularly chilling entertainment: vivid enough in its physical detail to pull in the crowds, heartless enough to send them back on to the streets with their feel-

The Van is an ordeal, too. For one thing, there is the decibel factor. No matter how mordant and funny the dialogue may be - and this dialogue is by Roddy Doyle two actors yelling at each other in scene after scene is wearing. Colm Meaney, an essential part of any film adapted from one of Doyle's Barrytown novels, keeps on shouting "Jesus!". Donal O'Kelly, as the chum who staves off the unemployment blues by buying a dilapidated fast-food van, maintains his own barrage of carping re-marks and Dublin workingclass slang. Under the bedlam

you can just hear the sound of

reasonable jokes being banged into the ground, and a slender

story stretched too far. Not that Doyle's script entirely lacks grace notes. Seri-ous worries lie within the story about two best friends, in the World Cup year of 1990, coming to blows serving bur gers and chips to the crowds watching Ireland's progress on TV: unemployment, fear of middle age and failure. But the director Stephen Frears, tackling his second Doyle script after The Snapper. does little to bring them to the surface. He stands back, lets the actors bellow and the

material grow monotonous. Le Bonheur begins with protesting employees at a toilet seat factory in north-eastern France. Now we British know something about lavatory humour, but Etienne Chatiliez's film grows ever more French as it pursues factory owner Michel Serrault, who flees domestic woes and a screaming wife (Sabine Azéma) by attaching himself to another family 300 miles to the south.

Food and drink play a prominent part. We follow the production of paté de foie gras at Carmen Maura's farm, whence Serrault flies after witnessing her appeal to her missing husband on a TV show. We are also served Eric Cantona and his brother Joël as Maura's genial and libertine neighbours: they are pleasant enough, but Gerard Depardieu need not fear

competition.
Chatiliez's penchant is sardonic comedy, but Le Bonheur has a rosier glow than Tatie Danielle or Life Is a Long Quiet River. Visually, however, there is little bloom. The colours are washed out, the direction relaxed to the point of indulgence. A fondness for French lifestyles is essential for enjoyment; otherwise, there is not much to take from this slim entertainment excépt the cast's skills and allure.

hakespeare, I know, is the new screen sensation after Jane Austen, but Adrian Noble's A Midsummer Night's Dream, adapted from his RSC production, proves so lacking in screen presence that it puts the Bard's cause back a hundred years. For all the fancy trappings, like the computer-gen erated special effects and the new character of the boy who dreams the dream, Noble still thinks like a primitive. There is the stage floor: you can see the cracks between planks. There are the props: light bulbs suspended from on high, free-standing doors that slide into the floor. There are the actors, led by Lindsay Duncan, Alex Jennings, Des mond Barrit and Barry Lynch: persuasive perhaps in a theatre, but charmless under the camera's close scrutiny.

Neither do we feel a thrill during Beautiful Girls, a tiresome saga of male fellowship mainly notable for wasting a good cast. Matt Dillon. Uma Thurman, Timothy Hutton, Rosie O'Donnell. Mira Sorvino: they utter a shapely line or so, then retreat into the snow of wintry Massachusens, pondering their future or the lure of the sexes. Then we have Dracula:

Dead and Loving It, with Leslie Nielsen in a fruity white wig, falling down stairs as he pronounces: I am Count Dracula". Mel Brooks's new spoof is marginally more watchable than his last. Robin Hood: Men in Tights, but the heavy burlesque humour and ponderous cutting still make the film seem an antique.



"Excellent script, superb writing and wonderful ensemble cast. An ideal film to stimulate the mind, lift the soul and gladden the heart all at once"

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good times never seemed so good

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Jonathan Clark on the bloody price of freedom

The tree of liberty refreshed

THE LONG AFFAIR

Thomas Jefferson and

the French Revolution

By Conor Cruise O'Brien

Sinclair-Stevenson, E25 ISBN 1856196372

Jefferson: uncompromising

t the end of America's century, dominated by Woodrow Wilson's crusade to export American values around the world, historians neces-sarily still ask: what, after all, was the essence of the American Revolution? How far was it just a defence of the rule of law, democracy and ancient liberties, a simple transfer of sovereignty? Or how much was it an act of radical self-emancipation, a secular millennium in which everything was remade and humanity's calender reset at Year One?

If the second, the Revolution was not for the United States alone: it was a call to world revolution, to extend in time, space and social agenda the implications of an initial act of liberation. If so, 1776 be-

comes the first of that sequence of emancipations of which 1789 was the second, and which created the world we know.

Thomas Jefferson therefore stands at the nub of the problem: Founding Father. American Minister Plenipotentiary in Paris from 1785 to 1789, Secretary of State from 1790 to 1793, diplomat and philosophe. What links did this astonishing man forge between these two events?

Where John Adams denied any strong debt of 1789 to 1776, justifying 1776 in very English terms. Jefferson championed the interpretation that France's Revolution was the culmination and fulfilment of America's. Jefferson took un extreme view of ancien régime: the people were "ground to powder by the vices of the form of government", namely "an absolute despotism". His

prophetic words from Paris in 1787, though specifically about Shays's rebellion in Massachusetts, were universally valid: "The spirit of resistance to government is so valuable on certain occasions, that I wish it always to be kept alive. It will often be exercised when wrong, but better so than not to be exercised at all. I like a little rebellion now and then. It is like a storm in the Atmosphere.

On another occasion, he was also writing of America in declaring: "What signify a few lives lost in a century or two? The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants. It is its natural manure." In this eloquent, almost Burkean book, O'Brien argues that these words allegedly adorning the T-shirt of one of the suspects of the Oklahoma bombing at his arrest, summed up Jefferson's attitude to the French Revolution also.

When the National Assembly began to sweep away the old order, he admired its uncompromising determination to tear down

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refrained from condemning the September massacres, when several thousand helpless prisoners were dragged from their cells and butchered; applauded the Jacobins for their execution of the king; and condoned the loss of innocent life with the argument that ends justify means: "was ever such a prize won with so little innocent blood?"

On this principle, which O'Brien calls "an apology for genocide". Jefferson discreetly ignored the massacre of many thousands more in the Terror. For public consumption, he denied that the atrocities were taking place at all. In private, he accepted their reality but

justified them as undertaken in the cause of liberty. Only after 1794, when the French National Convention decreed the abolition of slavery, did this racist slave-owner's attitude towards the Revolution begin to cool. In O'Brien's version, Jef-

ferson's totem was liberty, not the United States: his ritual observance was rebellion, not democracy; his targets were not cruelty, injustice or expropriation. but "tyranny" and "oppres-sion". Jefferson's idea of liberty was not Burke's; it was, writes O'Brien, the "fanatical cult" of a "wild liberty, absolute, untrammelled, universal, the liberty of a great revolutionary manifesto: the Declaration of Independence".

Today, America's civil religion takes what it wants ceals the rest. True, he declared slavery doomed: but he prophesied also that negroes, after emancination, could not live in the

same polity as whites, and demanded their return to Africa. If emancipated blacks remained in Virginia, they would be "brought under restraint", argues O'Brien; "The Ku-Klux-Klan was ideologically descended from Thomas Jefferson". He must be deleted from the American Civil Religion (Official Version) demands O'Brien, to fit it for the United States of the future, dominated by blacks, Hispanics, Asians and women.

the pantheon of white liberals, will be appropriated by white supremacists instead. Yet if Jefferson the racist anarch is an immediate concern for the honest citizens of Oklahoma City, the rest of the world might be more affected by the larger part of the problem that O'Brien overlooks: just how harmless is Jefferson the revolutionary liberal in the official version of his creed, peacefully embodied in American egalitarianism and idealistically expressed in the policies of William Jefferson Clinton?

His only fear is that Jefferson, taken out of



Thesiger with his essential gun: near the end of his journey, by the Gulf of Tadjoura on the coast of the present-day Republic of Djibouti

Escape from civilisation pontate who hated Europeans

lilfred Thesiger was born in 1910, the son of the British representative in Abyssinia (now Ethiopia). The bliss of his first nine years ended when he was sent to a public school in England. There he suffered the alienation of a child whose inner landscape had been

formed by Empire's outposts. A decade later, Haile Selassie invited the young man as Emperor of Ethiopia. That month's holiday would "permanently affect" the course of Thesiger's life. "I had felt then the lure of the unknown, the urge to go where no white man

had been' This is the voice of the youth who would become the author of two seminal works of 20thcentury travel literature, Arabian Sands and The Marsh Arabs: one of the last of a species - the British male explorer with an essentially Victorian, pre-Freudian, exclusively masculine mentality.

The Danakil Diary records this first return to Ethiopia, and a second, when he explored the Awash River to its end, through the lands of

Danakil tribesmen. Diary is an awkward form - raw material clogged with trivia and repetition. There are interminable entries of how many oryx, waterbuck or lesser kudu, gerenuk, and aoul the

Robyn Davidson on the nascent talent in the early writings of a great desert traveller

author wasted that day. And then there's interest-deleating journal-speak like "Wally says that Holland shot a bongo in the forests close to Maji". which leaves us no wiser as to who Wally or Holland are. what a bongo is, or where

However, there are compensations for this sometimes cluttered, sometimes gaping form. The reader's own imagination is forced to work in odd ways. A day's events, all crammed into one line - "A considerable amount more road making, and tree cutting. Heard another honey bird. The natives say he will sometimes lead you to a lion instead of to honey" - unexplained anecdotes - "A Frenchman was murdered not far from here three years ago. The remains of his corpse, one leg, was taken to Addis Ababa and formally decorated by the Emperor - give the book a wonderfully surreal quality at times. Also, the very tedium and confusion of the form reflect what such journeys are really like - a matrix of boredom containing moments

THE DANAKIL DIARY Journey Through Abyssinia, 1930-34 By Wilfred Thesiser HarperCollins, E18 ISBN 000255710 X

end of the river he is ordered back by the Abyssinian Governor. He allows himself one small moan here - "Listless and depressed ... I cannot describe my bitterness at this idiotic interference." uckily he is blessed not

only with a stiff lip but with that other requirement for travelling through harsh environments - a con-stitution of reinforced concrete. Scornion bites and rotting feet are mentioned en passant. The reason for the Governor's nervousness is that the Governor does not want to be held responsible for Thesiger's death. Three previous expeditions had been wiped out by the Danakil and nasty things done to the A Danakil man's prowess is

rated by the number of his

the mapping, the collecting of animals and birds were all "kills" of other men. Naturally, proof of these kills is incidental. The knowledge that somewhere in this neighrequired, so the hunter castrates his victims, sometimes while they are still alive. Thesiger describes a young bourhood three previous expeditions had been extermintribesman coming into camp after scoring his first "tro-phies". "He struck me as the Danakil equivalent of a nice, rather self-conscious Etonian who had just won his school colours for cricket." But while the Danakil take the balls of human beings as trophies. Thesiger takes the heads of everything else. Why? What did he do with them all? How were they preserved during

comes to mind - a train of men, camels and mules moving through a heat mirage loaded up with the staring and stinking heads of every imaginable beast. To undertake the last leg of the journey, he requires a Sultan's permission. He describes their meeting hundreds of men, the Sultan with a silver-topped stick, slaves carrying rifles in red silk covers. As I looked round

the clearing at the ranks of

squatting warriors ... I knew

the journey? A macabre image

ated, that we were far beyond any hope of assistance, that: even our whereabouts were satisfying." The slump when the expedition is over, when he has to sleep "imprisoned in a house" is inevitable, The pain of readjustment to the smallness of England would be a constant throughout his life. The last line of

Arabian Sands, when he

leaves his Arab friends to fly

"home", reads: "I know how it

felt to go into exile."

was the realization of my

boyhood dream. I had come

here in search of adventure:

Thesiger is, I imagine, an unashamed nostalgist for a lost era. I heard a story about him once. A young journalist, in an interview, accused him of promoting a stereotype of the noble savage. Thesiger gave him a withering look and said: "But they are noble, damn you." Apocryphal or not, it fits.

Robyn Davidson's Desert Places is published by Viking, that this moonlight meeting in unknown Africa with a savage

CAMERA PRESS

Contemporary concerns

n the 1955 general election, Anthony Eden addressed a mass rally in the Birmingham Rag Market. I was there. He was the master of the occasion, exuding calm-ness and authority. Within four months of his election victory his reputation had spiralled downwards. Fleet Street rebuked him for vacillation and indecision.

Indeed, it was the misfortune of Eden to have a fluctuating reputation with the culminating disaster of Suez. Such a career has invited considerable biographical attention, some ten books havsubject. David Dutton now adds his volume which attempts to redress the generally hostile judgment of Eden with

a view that goes wider than Suez. It is persuasive, not least because he often qualifies rather than rejects his opponents' arguments. Outton has set himself a formidable task. For many the

alleged infamy of Suez obliterates the need for any wider consideration. Eden himself felt that his memoirs should start, not with childhood, but with a defence of Suez. Of course. Dutton could not judge Eden's life and reputation without an assessment of the cumulative misfortunes that entombed his reputation in 1956. He suffered growing illhealth, he was prone to severe personal judgments ranging from Mussolini to Nasser, he had a blind spot when judging the nature and intensity of

American opin-John Biffen ion, and he was arguably insecure from having to wait so many years before acceding to the preand Reputation miership. The conflict with By David Dutton Nasser required the calm percep-ISBN 0 340 56168 8

tion of the Americans or else the worldly cynicism of the French. Eden was able to provide neither, and was eventually trapped in a collusion with France and Israel. It is a sad irony since so much of his

ANTHONY

EDEN

A Life

Arnold, 525

Secondly, Eden secured and deserved wide respect as a principled Foreign Secretary in the 1930s. His commitment to the League of Nations and collective security gave him an appeal beyond Tory ranks. Dutton concludes that Eden was correct to concentrate upon checking Mussolini before turning to the greater German threat. In turn this led to his resignation when he judged his colleagues to be

Eden returned to the heart of Government after Churchill's premiership in 1940. He was far-sighted in seeking better relations with the Soviet Union. This was an essential but, after Yalta, a forlorn task. Patient diplomacy could do little to protect British interests against Soviet

brute force. Acknowledging this, Dutton also concludes: "Overall his performance as Foreign Secretary between 1940 and 1945 probably marked the peak of his career."

Topically, the book also makes a judgment on Eden's European policy. He shared the general attitude of great circumspection when there were moves towards Euronean union after the collapse

Behold once again the man

of beauty, excitement, dread.

And frustration. When he is

within a week's march of the

THIS BRILLIANT book should be a great relief for anyone condemned to read the run of contemporary Nietz-sche commentaries; and for anyone who isn't, it could be an introduction which it is hard to imagine being surpassed in passion and lucidity. Lesley Chamberlain's opening sentence is This book is an attempt to befriend Nietzsche", and that is a precise

description. it takes him through 1888, the last year of his sane and then half-same life, and combines moving biographical narrative, evocation of places and moods, and an account of the writings of that year which is a tour de force of accuracy of feeling. More than anyone I have read, Chamberlain manages to do justice to Nietzsche's complex relationship to Wagner, the man and his music, and to show why it matters so much that we understand it.

She moves on to his travels to and from Sils Maria, his refuge in the Swiss Engadine, and his further works of the





Wagner (left) and Nietzsche: Chamberlain delineates their complex relationship

Michael Tanner

NIETZSCHE IN TURIN The End of the Future By Lesley Chambertain Quartet. EID ISBN 0704380285

ual must create himself though he is existentially worthless. Nietzsche's humility here has been much overlooked."

CHAMBERLAIN, wisely, us off reading much

absurd that I almost gave up. Yet a main virtue of the book is its resolute refusal to romanticise or demonise. She can see just how Nietzsche's works are pitched, and judge the level of engagement they need, and the personal response they insist on.

She deserved better from her publishers. This book is a tissue of misprints, among the best of which is "Kristische" for "Kritische", a mistake Nietzsche would, I hope, have relished; "gold soldiers" for 'good soldiers" is fun, too. But I am afraid that Chamberlain herself may be responsible for SACURDAY

In the Directory: our critics' choices of the best books of the year to buy for Christmas

plus a

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Boz strikes

IT IS HARD to grasp how Victorian times. As well as the 14 major novels, usually issued as serials for wider circulation, he wrote travel books, Christmas stories, even an opera. He spoke at dinners, edited papers and campaigned for various reforms — although his sympathies could be contradictory, as John Carey showed in his study The Violent Effigy.
Dickens once remarked "I

have often thought that I should certainly have been as successful on the boards as I have been between them" (no false modesty there), and from 1853 onwards he gave some 470 readings, in Britain, America and France. His reading copy of A Christmas Carol, published in a smart facsimile by the New York Public Library in 1971, is not just abridged, but annotated with tonal prompts such as "Pathos" and "Mystery".

Dickens even allowed "reading" editions to be published although he often improvised new passages. "I got things out of the old Carol effects I mean - so entirely new and so very strong, that I quite amazed myself and wondered where I was going next," he wrote from Paris. just as Bob Dylan might have done from Budokan. And the mere mention of some characters could bring applause, like the first appearance of a harmonica.

Recently, Dent published the second of four volumes of



BIBLIOMANE

Dickens's prodigious feats of journalism, to set beside the continuing Pilgrim edition of his correspondence, which Oxford has been engaged in for more than three decades. The Amusements of the People (edited by Michael Slater, £25) pages hold little more than a quarter of the pieces from those years. What stands out today is the range of subjects Dickens was expected and able to cover, from reviewing melodramas - to pamphlet wars and election coverage. He also wrote satirical pieces about such matters as the scourge of bill sticking and a John Majorish initiative to teach the world to sing.

Not all of the writing now reads well, and the context provided by Slater is sometimes essential. How strange, though that in an edition called Dickens' Journalism: the text should always use the ive form Dickens's.

HAVING thought of Dickens's effects as rather broad. was surprised by the precision of his description in Pickwick Papers of the street where live, when I typeset it for a housewarming party: There is a repose about Lant Street. in the Borough, which shed a gentle melancholy upon the soul ... In this happy retreat are colonised a few clearstarchers, a sprinkling of journeymen bookbinders, one or two prison agents for the Insolvent Court, several small housekeepers who are employed in the Docks, a handful of mantua-makers, and a seasoning of jobbing tailors... The population is migratory, usually disappearing on the of quarter-day, and generally by night. His Majesty's revenues are seldom collected in this happy valley, the rents are dubious, and the water communication is very fre-quently cut off." His collective noun for bookbinders is exactly right a *sprinkling*, because of "sprinkled calf", the kind of binder's leather that is flecked

IN HIS own lifetime, the Quarterly Review predicted that Dickens's ephemeral popularity [would] be followed by early oblivion". Catalogue CXIII from the antiquarian booksellers. Jarndyce lists 1,766 items by or relating to the Inimitable Boz, and shows just how wrong the ephemeral Quarterly could be (Jarndyce, 46 Great Russell Street, WCI, 0171 6314220).

JIM MCCUE

AUTHORS Let Un Printer Your Book AVON BOOKS (M).

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Richard Johnson and Imogen Stubbs in *Uncle Vanya*

Even lovers must visit the dentist

Imogen Stubbs eavesdrops on a passion of the mind

is a collection of letters octween the actress Olga Knipper and the writer Anton Chekhov, during her various roles as his friend, lover, wife, widow. They were written while she was

playing (among other parts) Yelena in Chekhov's Uncle Vanya. Nobody could have leapt on this book and devoured it more eagerly than I did — also playing Yelena, in Bill Bryden's recent production of *Uncle Vanya*. My pitiful cries of "but what does Chekhov mean?" during rehearsals had, of course, been met with the reply: "We can't dig him up and ask him."

Right from the outset Knipper is writing in despair. "Everybody at home is appalled by my performance Naturally I hurtled through all her comments about toothache and autumn leaves to reach his answer - only to discover that he also fills his letters with toenail problems and the

Only by the end of the book does it become clear that this elusiveness is a necessary part of their relationship, both professionally and emotionally—a means of self-discovery for her and self-preser-vation for him.

It is always compelling reading private letters - but also unset-tling. They were not intended for publication and so they are not offering themselves up for judgment or mockery. They are just letters - whimsical, boring, anguished, funny, exasperated - an insight into the domestic life of a genius, not into the genius itself. "I went to the dentist today," writes Chekhov, unaware that his wife is suffering a miscarriage hundreds of miles away, "and, d'you know, he wasn't in!" When I had finished

the letters I felt I should somehow

lock them back in a drawer and

DEAR WRITER, DEAR **ACTRESS** Edited and translated by Jean Benedetti Methuen, £16.99 ISBN 0-41370580-3

Indeed, there are areas of Chekov's life I could happily have lived without contemplating - as when his letters increasingly concentrate on the state of his bowels. Also (and I'm sure the translation is somehow misleading here), to read that Chekhov's pet names for Olga were "doggie" and "horsiekins" is a bit like discovering that the man you love wears Mr

Blobby underwear. But by the end of the book I felt hugely attached to both Olea and Chekhov, and very tearful when I realised, with only a few pages left,

that Chekhov was about to die. This is recorded in Olga's memoir and is wonderfully moving. The most devastating correspondence is from then on, as Olga feels compelled to go on writing to Chekhov after his death; because they have lived so much apart, you keep expecting a dry Chekhovian telegram — Just popped out back in a hundred years." And Olga suddenly seems to find her voice - able to confront the problems that in many ways ruined their marriage and which have been so clear to the reader all

It is not called Dear Anton. Dear Olga, but the poignant Dear Writer, Dear Actress because their love was utterly fostered and controlled by their professions which kept them constantly part of each others' creative lives, but almost constantly apart. More-

to some extent part of a heightened reality - consequently, when they were together their life and love seemed inexplicably mundane.

The theatre, the theatre . . . I don't know whether to acted against my own conscience. Still, who knows ... if I had given up the theatre ... ". There is a moment in The Three Sisters between Vershinin and Masha, who have fallen in love with each other. She is on stage with her sisters, and suddenly she hears him hum a simple tune for her. "Ti tum, ti tum, ti tum" and she replies "ti tum, ti tum" and gets up and goes to him. It is very simple, very private - it is their way of declaring their love for each other. I found these letters were rather like that - and like the sisters I was part of the definition excluded from it.

Making Burke into a spectacle

are rarely caricatured in their lifetime, but that was not the case with Edmund Burke, who appears in 293 prints - ranking him fifth in the order of popularity in this golden age of graphic satire. The reason for this is that Burke was also moved from the Left to the

conservative Right. Burke was given a "rotten borough" as a reward for being the Private Secretary to Rockingham, who briefly became Prime Minister in 1765. ical thinker of his generation, Burke could-not remain silent and entered controversy with great bursts of eloquence - his weary opponents dubbed him the "dinner bell" of the House of Commons. For the first 25 years of his political life he was the friend of Fox and Sheridan, happy to be in the Opposition and denouncing the Government. He spoke up for the American colonies -Do not burden them with taxes" - he tried to reduce the King's patronage by cutting the Civil List; he led the crusade against Warren Has-

tings and, in the Regency Crisis of 1788 he incautiously supported the Prince of Wales. Leading satirists Gillray. Sayers and Boyne depicted him as an Irish adventurer. too clever by half, a Quixote tilting at windmills, and quite Kenneth Baker

EDMUND BURKE A Life in Caricature By Nicholas K. Robinson ISBN 0 300 06801 8

falsely as a Papist wearing a biretta. Barely any of the cartoons is remotely lavour-

All cartoonists like a tab of recognition for their targets --Churchill's cigar, Margaret Thatcher's handbag — and for perched upon his long nose. Great fun is made with them and he is usually depicted as an emaciated, demented loon peering myopically.

In 1790, appalled by the French Revolution, Burke wrote his great prescient work, Reflections on the Revolution in France, the founding text of Conservatism. He abandoned his old friends and teamed up with Pitt and George III. The same satirists, then aided and abetted by the young radical Dent, did not praise him for this conversion, but turned upon him for his apostasy. Poor Burke, he just couldn't

This cartoon biography is an excellent way of understanding the life and times of this strange and important political figure. Nicholas Rob-inson wears his considerable



The Infamous Coalition (by James Gillray) between the radical Fox and the high Tory North, in 1783-84, was the most caricatured event of the 18th century; here they are joined by Burké, unfairly depicted as a Catholic, but the biretta and the spectacles became his distinguishing marks

ous and he brings vividly to

life that rumbustious age: Yale University Press has again produced a superb volume to illuminate the politics of the 18th century. I hope that Nicholas Robinson, whose wife is the President of the Irish Republic, will find time to write another such biography, perhaps this time of Charles James Fox, the most caricatured figure of the 18th century and the first Leader of His Majesty's Opposition.

The Rt Hon Kenneth Baker, CH, MP, is the editor of The Faber Book of War Poetry, priced £17.50.

Beware literary lions

ooked at through Amanda Craig's eyes in A Vicious Circle, the literary world doesn't look like a pretty place. It is filled with vain, untalented authors, superficial publishers, emptyheaded publicists, powerhungry literary editors and a group of venomous reviewers who never bother to read more than a few pages of any book they're assigned. It is such a sad place, one leaves the novel wondering why an honest soul would ever stray near it even if this is only supposed to be a saure.

The novel focuses on a particular group of literary and journalistic sharks: there is a callous books editor called Ivo Sponge (you get the pic-ture), his equally horrid employer Max de Monde ("de" is always good for a rich villain). his nasty daughter Amelia and her husband, a political journalist by the name of Mark Crawley, The few characters with any trace of virtue. or even a regular name, are either very poor, very oppressed, or about to die.

Still. Craig is not writing a tragedy, and she aims to take the reader through the horrors of contemporary literary London while keeping her sense of humour. She has a taste for rather knowing, cynical jokes that narrowly succeed in forcing the reader to pull a smile, but are rarely sharp enough to hold it there for very long. We hear, for instance, that Candida, an editor at a fictional publishing house called Belgravia. is

someone "for whom lunch was

not a noun but a verb".



Craig: makes the book world seem a dangerous place

Alain de Botton

A VICIOUS CIRCLE By Amanda Craig Fourth Estate, £15.99 ISBN 1857026810

Another character remarks: "I sometimes think that every Oxbridge graduate has two degrees ... one in their subject, and one in bitching": a run-down housing development is described as "not so much a sink as a toilet".

The novel reads like an initiation guide to the literary world for the innocent or idealistic (Balzac's Lost Illusions is an influence). We are shown around the capital's favourite media hangout, the Slouch Club in Soho, where we find "authors on the razzle, agents on the dazzle, politicians on the frazzle". There are epigrams to enlighten: "You

can only rise or fall in London. There's no middle way", "In journalism, venom is the elixir of success" and, apparently, There are few things worse for a journalist than to work on a sinking paper". Midway, one character gives another a lesson in the art of reviewing novels: "You have to grab the reader] by the balls and hang on," is one recommendation; another is that you should never give a book a bad review if its author is in any danger of one day reviewing yours.

If A Vicious Circle disappoints, it is because the literary world is indeed filled with abuses, and the anger one detects beneath Craig's prose is more than justified. There are, regrettably, many horrible publishers, literary editors and authors: but there is very little chance of hitting the target with satirical instruments as blunt as Ivo Sponge



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Bargains of the week — from a two-week all-inclusive trip to Cuba to a chocoholics buffet at the Waldorf

HOLIDAYS

COUNTRY walks to build up appetites for Christmas are featured in three-day breaks on offer for E50 a person until December 14 from Countrywide Holidays in the Lake District, Peak District and the West Country. The price includes two nights guesthouse accommodation and full board with picnic lunches. Details: 0161-446 2226.

TUNISIAN resorts for a week from Ell9 a person in bed and breakfast or selfcatering accommodation are available from SunTours, with flights from Gatwick tomorrow and the next three Fridays. A formight costs £0 extra. with half-board available for £20-£30 a week extra. Details: 0171-434 3636.

AMSTERDAM for a day's Christmas shopping is available for £89 a person this Saturday and next from Amsterdam Travel Service. Flights from Stansted at 6.40am, returning at 7.30pm. Details: 01992 456056.

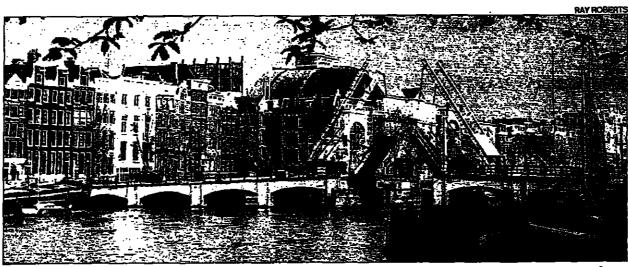
■ ALSACE cities, towns and villages, boasting an array of festive markets and museums, are offering pre-Christmas breaks for Fr400 (about £47), a person including two nights bed and breakfast accommodation, with travel extra. De-

■ CHRISTMAS in the Normandy countryside is on offer from Inntravel Shortbreaks with three nights half-board beginning with a celebratory Christmas Eve meal and Portsmouth-Le Havre ferry crossing earlier the same day costing £164 a person. Details: 01653 628862.

START the new year in Cuba with an all-inclusive two-week Cosmos holiday at the Club Ancon costing £739 a person. The flight is from Gatwick on January 1 at the respectable hour of 10.15am. Details: 0101-480 5799.

■ JUST FRANCE is cutting prices by up to 10 per cent next year and offering half-price accommodation deals on the second and subsequent weeks of holidays in 55 properties. Bargains include a villa in the Dordogne, sleeping nine with a shared pool, for £315 a week. Details: 0181-780 0303.

BUSH survival techniques, abseiling, game walks and drives in Africa form part of the two-week Ranger Experi-ence adventure included in Kumuka Expeditions' new brochure. The trip takes in the Drakensberg mountains, Zululand and Kruger National Park for £675 a person, flights extra. Early booking discounts. Details: 0171-937 8855.



Get a glimpse of the Magere bridge on a Christmas shopping trip to Amsterdam for £89 a person this Saturday

FLIGHTS

AUSTRAVEL is offering savings of £100 on selected Britan-Airways flights to Australia and New Zealand next month with the lowest prices of £199 one way and £399 return available for flights from Gatwick on Monday. Details: 0171-734 7755.

■ FREE economy tickets are being offered to executives who fly regularly with Jersey European on routes to Belfast. The airline is also awarding one free ticket on routes between London, Lyons and Toulouse for every four domestic business class trips taken. Details: 01392 360777.

■ FINNAIR has winter saver fares to Helsinki (£214) and Stockholm (E204). Departures from London or Manchester. Details: 0171-629 8039.

■ AIR UK is offering a E109 seat sale fare between Stansted and Milan which is valid until December 17. Details: 0345 666777.

LUPUS Travel will give savings of about £50 on Alitalia flights to Italy provided you book by tomorrow. Examples include Florence and Pisa for £160, Rome and Venice for £150 and Turin for £130. Details: 0171-306 3000.

HOVERSPEED is selling new until December 31. Details products on Dover-Calais in 0990 711711. time for Christmas. They in-

-EFRIES

STENA Line is gearing up for Christmas: 40 per cent off perfumes, half-price Sony clude a £75 mountain bike and a £60 karaoke machine. Day trip prices for a car and two passengers are £17, up to five passengers, £19. Details: 0990 goods, litres of alcohol fall to E5.99 and 24 cans of lager to £6.99. Day trip prices are £15 return per car and £1 per passenger on all Channel routes. Details: 0990 455455. SHORT BREAKS with Sea France start at £39.50 return

for a car and up to five ■ON the Irish Sea. Stena passengers (additional passengers, £4 each). The price applies to breaks of up to five Line is offering return rail and sail trips on the Stranraer to days - over five days the fare Belfast route from £79 each doubles to £79 for a car and up from London, E57 from Newcastle and I Details: 0990 455455. to nine passengers. Both valid Liverpool. on the Dover-Calais route

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HYATT Hotels is offering extra frequent flyer miles or free weekend accommodation for guests staying four nights or more, until February 28, at any of its 177 hotels and resorts. Guests must register with the Hyatt Gold Passport frequent stay scheme. Details: 0181-789 8900.

A EIO voucher to spend at either Harrods or Harvey Nichols department stores in Knightsbridge, London, is offered to guests on a winter shopping break at the nearby Cadogan Hotel from Decem-ber 16 to January 31. Rate is E95 per person per night, with a minimum of two nights, and one dinner is included. Details: 0171-235 7141.

■ SPECIAL B&B prices, from £20 per person per night over Christmas, are available from Highlife Breaks at the Hand Hotel, Llangollen, and the Forth Bridges Hotel, Edinburgh, among others. Details: 0800-700 400.

■ THE three-star Uliswater Hotel in Glenridding in the Lake District has a rate of E49.50 per person per night, including full English breakfast, through Superbreaks mini-holidays. The offer, saving almost £25 on normal rates, is available until April. Details: 0161-238 5257.

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■ THE four Inter-Continental Hotels in the UK (three in London and one in Edinburgh) offer savings of up to 60 per cent from December 13 to January 12 Prices start from £95 per room per night. including English breakfast for two. Details: 0181-847 3711.

SIX-DAY ski school and ski lift passes are included in special packages at the Thurnhers Alpenhof Hotel, part of the Prima Hotels consortium, at Zurs am Arlberg in Austria. The package starts on December 14 at £1,105 per person for seven nights, including dinner, ris-ing to £1,290 in January. 5 Details: 0800-181 535.

■ GLENEAGLES Hotel in Perthshire has a new year rate from January 3 to 31, available through Leading Hotels of the World, of £109 per room per night, including full Scottish breakfast. This rises to £205 a night in February. Details: 0800-181 123.

go to the Waldorf Meridien Hotel in London on Friday afternoons where a chocolate buffet for £7.50 per head is held, with unlimited access to such dishes as Dark Orange Chocolate Tart and Chocolate Dipped Strawberries. Details: 0171-836 2400.

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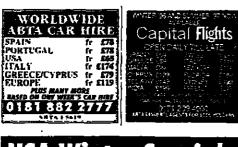
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How the no-show squeeze leads to the 'bumps'

W City

SOMEONE has got to take the bull by the horns and impose severe penalties on selfish airline passengers usually businessmen — who book seats which they have no intention of using and then earnot be bothered to cancel International scheduled

airlines acknowledge the need for a system of no show penalties, but have shied away from introducing them because of the fear of competition and because it would be "too difficult" to

Instead they prefer to pay compensation to those who agree not to travel on a particular flight and hand out even more to those who are compulsorily off-loaded.

But many routes are now so full, because of soaring demand, that the problem has reached crisis point.

Take the case of Professor Sir Frederick Holliday, chairman of Northumbrian Water, who was furious when he and his wife were "bumped" from a British Airways flight to Sydney despite booking Club Class tickets weeks in advance and checking in three hours before departure. "After a fuss I secured our

eats, but others were less lucky," he said. "I understand



The Travel Business HARVEY ELLIOTT

the potential losses from 'no shows' but such people should be penalised, not those who book, confirm and show

How right he is. British Airways has managed to reduce the number of "no shows from seven in 10,000 passengers to five in 10,000. But this does not include the passengers who volunteer to stand down and catch the next available flight.

Airlines are forced to over-book seats to balance the number of people who scatter phantom bookings across several flights and, because they have paid full business class fare, can choose which to take. It would be courteous to let someone know which they had decided on. But the arrogance of some business travellers who abuse the airline and fellow passengers knows no bounds

It is already impossible to get a seat — of any kind — on Qantas flight to Australia before Christmas Eve, and flights to Singapore, Hong Kong, New York, Buenos Aires, Johannesburg and Tokyo are crammed to capacity.

Business class is booming, yet the number of seats is coming down as demand goes up because airlines are offering passengers more leg room and that means fewer seats.

Business travel agents, such as the Travel Company and Hogg Robinson, do their best to monitor airline computers to ensure that as seals are returned to the system, they can grab them for their clients. But there is little they can do if the airline is not told about a cancellation.

It is outrageous that passengers booking and checking in in good time are denied boarding, or given a seat at nt after waiting anxiously. Airlines have pleaded with passengers to show consideration long enough. Now is the time to stop toadying to them and get tough by introducing pocket-hurting, no-show penalties.

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Early snowstorms boost ski resorts

SKI resorts from Norway to the Pyrenees are opening early to take advantage of heavy snowfalls across Europe.

Conditions for skiing are reported to be perfect with many alpine resorts already recording more snow on the runs than at any time during

David Hearns of the Ski Club of Great Britain said: "The snow this year is quite fantastic. I am not one to get too excited about the prospects for a coming season, but this is an exception.

The snow is now lying up to six feet deep in the main alpine resorts, such as Tignes, and with few people skiing yet, the slopes have been groomed to perfection. It is the snowiest November I can remember and there is now enough snow to guarantee the quality of the skiing throughout the season."

Dozens of resorts now plan to open on Saturday, three weeks earlier than normal and some, especially in the French Pyrenees, have already opened, with snow up to three feet deep on the upper slopes. In Norway, ski resorts are opening daily with Geilo, for example, now operating five lifts and five runs and a 16 mile prepared cross-country

In Andorra there is three feet of snow at 6,000 feet and the forecast is continuing cold with temperatures hovering around -20C.

In Leysin, Switzerland. snow starts to accumulate to eight inches at 600 feet reaching one metre at 1,100 to 1,300

Snow is lying up to six feet deep at 3,000 feet. St Anton, in the Tyrol, has three feet of snow while Obergurgl, records five feet. The improving exchange

rate with the franc - now up to Fr8.3 to the pound - is also attracting record numbers of British skiers and bookings throughout Europe are at least 15 per cent above last year's

Gloria Ward of Thomson said: "It is the best early snow in 20 years and the Alps have got off to a better start even than North America. Keen skiers wanting to travel before

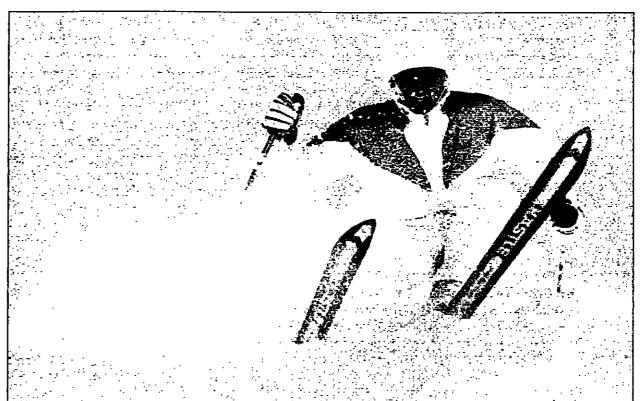
Christmas look like getting great conditions, uncrowded pistes and some excellent

Lizzie Norton, director of Ski Solutions, said that sales were bouyant: "Countries showing a comeback on sales are Italy and Switzerland. The Swiss franc has become more favourable this year than

Andy Perrin, of Crystal, said that the growth in bookings throughout the industry was around 17 per cent: "Even the inexpensive countries such as Bulgaria and Andorra are doing well." Nina Clifford, product man-

ager of Nielson, said: "By the end of the season, we should be seeing about 5 to 8 per cent growth in numbers of customers." Conditions are set to ge

better still. A Met Office forecaster said: "Over the past ten years, we have had mild autumns and winters in Britain and Europe, so such early snowfall has been uncommon. Temperatures will drop further early next week so there



Unusually heavy snowfalls mean perfect skiing conditions are already being reported at many European resorts

Overbooking threat to £10,000 holiday

A FAMILY of four who paid almost £10,000 for a Christmas holiday in Barbados were told this week that the hotel could no longer offer them their chosen room.

Carolina Moran, from Weybridge, Surrey, booked a Kuoni holiday in the luxurious Almond Beach on the west coast of Barbados through her local Going Places travel agency on August 15.
"We specifically asked for a

junior suite with two separate rooms so that my husband Mark and I could be in one while our two young children. Mariella and Edward, shared the other," said Mrs Moran. "As one of the children is only one year old, we were only charged for three people,

but it still cost £9,649, which we paid in full on September The family is booked to fly out to Barbados on British Airways from Gatwick on December 17 and return on

January L But on Tuesday

they were contacted by Going Places who told them that the room was no longer available. "It seemed it was simply overbooked," said Mrs Kuoni also offered to pay £426 compensation plus £30 Moran. "We felt annoyed and

very let down but the agency told us there was nothing they could do. Kuoni then offered us another room, but not a suite, or our money back." Going Places admitted that it was "our worst nightmare" but said that Kuoni had to

resolve the problem. A Kuoni official said that they were still hopeful of being able to put the Morans into the junior suite they had originally booked but in the meantime were offering both compensation and an alternative.

"There is no way we would ever double-book a customer," said a spokeswornan, "But unfortunately the hotel suddenly informed us that the room was not available, without giving a reason. We thought we should at least offer an alternative and al-

though it has a different layout the new room does have two additional beds and it overlooks the ocean.'

per person as "spending money" in the resort. The Association of British Travel Agents said that the problem was one which

keeps tour operators and travel agents awake at night". "Unfortunately the travel industry is at risk of being held to ransom by hoteliers who sometimes play Russian roulette with bookings," said Keith Betton, of Abta. The only way to prevent it is to

penalise hoteliers who do this

to customers and if necessary

do not use the hotel again." Kuoni said last night that they were still in negotiation with the hotel and the Morans were waiting to see what the outcome would be before deciding whether to continue with their planned Christmas holiday of a lifetime.

The survey also reveals that

per cent of the population

will spend Christmas on their

own, and that 41 per cent of

those who do go abroad will

be visiting friends or family. Women are far more attracted

to seeing friends and family

abroad, with 65 per cent of the

women questioned putting

that as their main reason for

travelling. Only 15 per cent of

the men said it was their main

CHRISTMAS

Centres (0990

881888) has low-price

holidays in Portugal and skiing in Scandinavia. For single people, Solo's

(0181-951 2800) has treats

in Sorrento and Lapland.

Hotels lose out to home comforts

By David Churchill

EXECUTIVE travellers are rejecting impersonal business hotels in favour of the home comforts offered by rented service apartments, which include fitted kitchens and washing machines.

This switch away from traditional hotels has prompted several leading chains in the United States, including Marriott and Choice Hotels, to build apartment-only properties under the names Towneplace Suites (Marriott)

and MainStay Suites (Choice). But the trend has also spread to Europe and the Middle East, according to the hotel consultants Pannell Kerr Forster. In a new study on the Middle East, they report a "significant threat" to hotels in the region from Western business travellers who prefer

In London, several leading hotels are installing apartments to counter this threat. The Tower Thistle Hotel has scrapped a floor of 29 rooms to create 12 apartments, each with its own kitchen. Early next month it plans to turn its staff accommodation hostel into 12 apartments.

Kurt Kuen, the Tower's general manager, says the move "reflects the demand for more space and amenities when business people stay for more than a few days".

Prices start at £320 a night for a one-bedroom apartment. The newly opened Regents Plaza Hotel in north London offers 50 apartments with kitchen, dining area and separate entrance from the hotel.

Specialist reservation companies which provide apartments also report increased demand.

"Many regular travellers are a little fed up with staying in the same type of hotels," says Saundra McInernay, marketing manager for the Apartment Service. "They like the idea of an apartment which enables them to create a home away from home." The company offers private-

ly owned flats, with or without service, in London or Paris. The Athenaeum Hotel in central London has some 33 apartments with their own entrance and kitchens, and 157 hotel rooms. Apartments start at £225 a night plus VAT, although the price falls the longer the stay.

The growth in popularity in

apartments is also encouraging more people to let their homes for short periods. A London company, Home From Home, offers private properties. They start from E350 a week. ■ Apartment Service: 0181-944

1444; Home From Home: 0171-

Australia; York

and Seville The ski page Insider's Paris

Air France strike adds to confusion

By Steve Keenan

A STRIKE by Air France crews added extra confusion for holiday and business travellers trying to reach France vesterday,

The two-day stoppage ends today, when only three of 11 Heathrow-Paris services are expected to operate, taking 1,000 much-needed seats of

the market. Flights have been running full since the Channel Tunnel blaze ten days ago halted Eurostar services. British Airways has added bigger planes and coach services have been increased.

While airlines and coach services have benefited from Eurostar's closure, tens of thousands of shoppers planning a trip on the car-carrying Le Shuttle service through the tunnel have cancelled plans to travel to the Continent.

P&O European Ferries reported an increase of 57 per cent in passenger figures in the ten days since the blaze, from 147,000 in the same period last year to 231,000. Car numbers increased in the same period from 31.000 to 50,000, up 60 per cent.

But adding figures from other ferry operators, an estimated 10,000 motorists who planned to travel through the tunnel have not switched to the ferries and decided not to

Talks to end the dispute were being held in France vesterday. But apart from a one-hour stoppage at Calais,

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the P&O spokesman said tourist cars had not been affected by the drivers' action. At this time of year, most

cars heading for France are aiming for Channel ports to stock up on Christmas wine. spirits and beer and the ferries are buoyant at the windfall. Both P&O and Stena have added extra ships and there is plenty of capacity for people

who want to travel. Travellers heading for Paris are not so fortunate. Air France was also forced to cancel four of its 11 Heath-

row-Paris flights yesterday. Flights to Paris from Manchester. Edinburgh and Birmingham are also cancelled today, although services from London City are unaffected. Eurostar had been running around 12.000 people a day to Paris, more than the com-

bined air capacity of BA, Air France, British Midland and Air UK. BA is adding an extra service today in addition to its 17 Heathrow and Gatwick flights to Paris, which are aiready full. On Friday and Saturday, it

is also using larger aircraft, replacing 180-seat planes with 250-seater Boeing 767s. "It will give us 30 per cent more capacity." BA said.

Coach operator Eurolines has more than doubled its services from London Victoria to Paris with extra coaches running overnight and a third scheduled service planned.

CDs for

Jersey aims to cash in on wedding market

JERSEY is enticing the growing number of couples planning to marry abroad to turn their back on the Caribbean and wed in the Channel Islands instead, Steve Keenan

The island has changed its marriage laws to allow wedding applications by post, and couples now have to spend only two days on Jersey before the ceremony.

The cost of a holiday and wedding there will average at around £1,000 - compared with the average Caribbean bill of £4.000, rising to £6,000 in the Seychelles or Mauritius.

Crystal Holidays is charging couples £429 for a wedding package on Jersey. which includes the Register Office and licence, champagne, wedding cake, bouquet and buttonhole. The price does not include flights

"Perhaps it is not so tropical in Jersey but it is a lot cheaper than the Caribbean," says Deborah Marshall, Crystal's product director. "We have had quite a few inquiries already.

An estimated 10,000 couples married abroad last year. says Cosmos, which claims 10 per cent of the market. The company recently published its new Dream Weddings & Honeymoons brochure and predicts a 20 per cent growth in the market this year.

THE

Dreaming of Christmas sun

from Sad (seasonal affective

disorder).

MORE than 70 per cent of Britons will spend Christmas at home with the family — but

Holiday Money.

would like to spend Christ-mas on a tropical island, 20 per cent in Florida and 17 per cent chose either New Zealand or Egypt. But it is the sun which is the biggest attraction with well over half those questioned

Nearly 40 per cent ideally

admitting that they did not like the British weather at Christmas. It is estimated that

most will be dreaming of getting away from it all to lie instead under a palm tree in the sun, Harvey Elliott writes. Given unlimited cash and time, only 12 per cent of the population would choose to stay at home, according to a survey by Gallup for Visa at least a million people suffer

PORTUGAL



BARGAINS EIGHT nights in Madeira, with a flight from Gatwick on Christmas Eve, is on offer for £499 a person with Cadogan Holidays (01703 332661); a ten-night cruise visiting the island and the Canar-ies is available for £810 from Waves (0171-431 7373); and Advantage

Most Britons dream of wintering on a tropical beach

British projects reach tourism award finals

By TONY DAWE

A BRITISH group which provides volunteers for conervation projects abroad and Northern Ireland's first rural tourism co-operative have been shortlisted for a leading travel award sponsored by

British Airways.
They are among 15 finalists drawn from more than 100 entries worldwide for the 1996 Tourism for Tomorrow awards, which are designed to encourage the careful environmental management of tourism projects.

The scheme run by the British Trust for Conserva-tion Volunteers has sent holidaymakers to help to monitor turtles in Turkey, protect orchids in Canada and manage

wetlands in Japan.
The Lakeland

Breaks co-operative is offering rural holiday packages in Il Fermanagh villages as part of a project to help local communities without overwhelming them with tourists. The two schemes are joined as finalists for the UK region by the Scottish Tourism and Environment Initiative. The 15 finalists have been

drawn from five regions and a global winner will be announced by Sir Colin Mar-shall. BA chairman, in February. Other finalists include a thriving blue penguin colony in New Zealand which has been developed from an old quarry in just four years. and Wind, Sand and Stars, a small Egyptian tour operator which takes tourists to the

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7. Silent Night Bing Crosby

8. O Tannenbaum Nat King Cole

9. Caroling, Caroling Nat King Cole 10. O Come All Ye Faithful

Andy Williams your order must 11. Away In A Manger

Bing Crosby 12. Amazing Grace Mahalia Jackson

13. Come To Jesus Mahalia Jackson

CHANGING TIMES

Charity chase for the lottery handouts

he National Lottery Charities Board announced its latest "theme" for the next round of grants to voluntary bodies yesterday. Simultaneously, it opened a telephone line to take requests for its guide on how

to apply for those grants.

Demand will far exceed the amount of money available: at present about one in five applications succeeds. Since its first meeting in August 1994, the board has handed out £318 million in 4.757 grants to charity groups, some of which may also be eligible for money from one of the other ten grant-making bodies distributing National Lottery funds.

The charities board's latest themes - "new opportunities and choices" and "voluntary sector development" - aim to "fund projects which extend non-formal learning and volunteering opportunities". and those that promote self-help.

"Voluntary sector development" is meant to attract umbrella bodies, development agencies and resource centres that service other voluntary or community groups. From January 20 until March 7 the telephone line will record requests for appli-cation forms, to be returned by April 4, from those hoping to

attract some of the millions of pounds the board has to give away. So far there have been three themed rounds of grant-giving from the charities board. The first. last year, targeted poverty. Chariworking to alleviate poverty and improve the quality of life of

As the cash applications are invited. Pat Blair looks at the varied pattern of giving today

ities have been about £1 billion a

year for three years, says Cathy Pharoah, head of research at the

Charities Aid Foundation (CAF).

CAF's 1995 analysis of the ac-

counts of the top 500 corporate

donors, published in May, suggests

that giving by companies has increased slightly after declining

for a few years. However, although

the figures have gone up. the rise is

n 1995 companies' total com-

munity investment, including

"gifts in kind", amounted to

£284.6 million. Mrs Pharoah

says companies almost certainly under-record such gifts - equip-

ment, training, secondment, non-

cash support, donation of written-

off stock — and believes much more is being done than is apparent from

Last November the CAF commis-

sioned a study from the Institute of

Fiscal Studies looking at long-term

trends in individual giving. The study, nearing completion, takes evidence from Family Expenditure

Surveys since the early 1980s and

shows that the number of people

giving to charity is dropping, although the fall has been offset by

company returns.

less than the inflation rate.

people and communities were eligible to apply. The money was available for capital or revenue use. There was a flood of applications - more than 15,000, requesting a total of £2.4 billion. Between October and December the board paid out £160 million to 2,460 projects.

The board then focused on "youth issues" and "low income". provoking protest from some medical research charities that they were not getting a slice of the cake as their work had not fitted into any of the themes.

However, the third grants programme, encompassing health, disability and care, met some of those objections and attracted more than 10,000 applicants. On Decemher 10 the first tranche of applicants will know what they can expect of more than £100 million waiting to be distributed.

National Lottery money, however, amounts to only about 2 or 3 per cent of the voluntary sector's income, which is still dominated by gifts from the public, through legacies, street collections, selling goods and services, corporate donations and other means.

In 1995, for example, companies paid out £162 million in cash sponsorship, while legacies to charpeople participating in planned giving, through such schemes as covenants and give-as-you-carrl At the same time legacies provid-

ed 33 per cent of the top 500 charities' income in 1995, according to Mrs Pharoah's research. However, although the number of charitable bequests is still increasing, the rate of increase has slowed. What is more, the value of bequests decreased by about 3 per cent between 1992 and 1994.

This year there have been other problems in Scotland, where local government spending cuts have followed reorganisation. Martin Sime, director of the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations, says: "It has had a devastating effect on many organisations, par-ticularly those that were dependent on local government finance." He estimates that about £10 million has been lost from a total local authority contribution of about £120 million, a loss of 8 per cent.

Charities suffered a further disappointment recently when Customs and Excise won a court case challenging their exemption from paying VAT on job advertisements. Mr Sime says that, as the Treasury gains substantial sums from National Lottery proceeds, it would be a welcome move if the Government imposed a windfall tax on its own receipts and steered it, somehow, back towards charitable groups.

● National Lottery Charities Board application line: 0345 an increase in the amounts from



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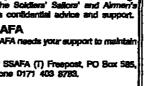
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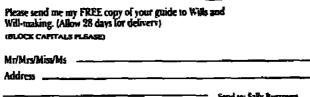
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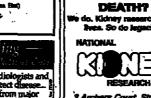
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Court did not pronounce on lawfulness of detention

Chahal v United Kingdom (Case 70/1995) Before R. Ryssdal, President and ludges R. Bernhardt, F. Gölcüklü. F. Matscher, L.-E. Petiti, A. Spielmann, J. De Meyer, N. Volticos, S. K. Martens, E. Palm, J. M. Morenilla, Sir John Freeland, A. B. Baka, G. Mifsud Bonnici, J. Malcarczyk, D. Gatchev, P. Jambrek, U. Lohmus and E. Levits

Registrar H. Petzold Deputy Registrar P. J. Mahoney Liudgment November 15j There was a real risk of an asylum applicant, if he were deported from the United Kingdom to India, being subjected to torture or inhuman or degrading punishment in violation of article 3 of the

ropean Convention on Human Rights: The European Court of Human Rights so held, by twelve wores to seven, and it also held, unanimously, that there had been a violation of article 13 of the Convention in conjunction with article 3 in that effective remedies did not exist before the courts in

Furthermore, the Court held, nously, that there had been a violation of article 5.4 in that Mr Chahal had been denied the of his detention decided by a

Article 3 of the Convention provides.
"No one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degradng treatment or punishment." Article 5 provides:

"I Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be deprived of his liberty save in the following cases and in accordance with a procedure pre-scribed by law. . (f) the lawful arrest or detention of a person . . agamst whom action is being taken with a view to deportation or

71 481 198

g

4 Everybody who is deprived of his liberty by arrest or detention shall be entitled to take proceedings by which the lawfulne detention shall be decided speedily if the detention is not lawful."

Article 8 provides: "I Everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence.

"2 There shall be no interference by a public authority with the is in accordance with the law and is necessary in a democratic society

Article 13 provides: "Everyone whose rights and freedoms as set forth in this Convention are violated shall have an effective remedy before a national authority..."

The applicants were two Indian citizens, Karamjit Singh Chahal and his wife, Darshan Kaur Chahai, and their two children, Kiranpreet Kaur Chahai and Bikaramjit Singh Chahai, who were Bruish citzens. All the apolicants were Sikhs.

The first applicant entered the United Kingdom illegally in 1971. In 1974 he was granted indefinite leave to remain by the Home Office under the terms of an amnesty for illegal entrants. The second applicant settled in the United Kingdom in 1975, where the children were born. Mr Chahal visited Punjab in

1964, shortly before the storming of the Golden Temple in Amritsar by the Indian army. During his visit he began to adhere to the tenets of orthodox Sikhism and became involved in organising passive resistance in support of an in-dependent Sikh homeland, Khalistan, which would roughly correspond to the Indian state of ab. He was arrested, detain for 2I days and tortured by the Punjab police.

On his return to the United Kingdom he became a prominent figure in the affairs of British Sikhs. He was twice charged with assault and affray arising out of disturbances in temples, but on the first occasion the Court of Appeal quashed the conviction and on the second he was acquitted. He was not known to have been charged with any other criminal offen the United Kingdom, India or

On August 14, 1990 the Home Secretary (then Mr Hurd) decided to deport Mr Chahal from the United Kingdom on the ground of national security and the international fight against terrorism.

It was alleged inter alia that he had been involved in supplying funds and equipment to terrorists in Punjab, planning and directing terrorist attacks in India, the United Kingdom and elsewhere and leading campaigns of intimidation against moderate Sikhs in the United Kingdom. Mr Chahal categorically denied those

On August 16, 1990 he was taken to Bedford Prison, where he had He applied for political asylum, claiming that he would be a victim retary refused that request on March 27, 1991.

Mr Chahal had no right of appeal to an independent tribunal because of the national security elements of the case. However, on July 10. 1991, the matter was considered by an advisory panel, including a Court of Appeal judge, Lord Justice Lloyd, and a former President of the Immigration Ap-

Mr Chahal was not informed of

the evidence supporting the Home Secretary's allegations against him. was not allowed to be represented by a lawyer and was not informed of the panel's advice to the Home Secretary, who was, in any case, not obliged to follow it . The Home Secretary (then Mr Baker) finally signed the deportation order on July 25, 1991. Mr Chahal's application for judicial review of the decision to refuse asylum was successful because the reasoning given to explain it had

On June I, 1992 the Home Secretary (then Mr Clarke) took a fresh decision to refuse asylum. Mr Chahal again sought judicial review. After that application was refused in the High Court (The Times March 12, 1993) he appealed to the Court of Appeal.

The Court of Appeal held that the Home Secretary had been required to weigh the threat to Mr Chahal's life or freedom if he were deported against the danger to national security if he were permitted to stay: see R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Chahal (The Times ber 27, 1993; [1995] I WLR 526). When refusing asylum, the Home Secretary appeared to have taken into account the evidence

relating to the risk of persecution in India and it was not possible for the court to judge whether his decision to depart Mr Chahal was irrational or perverse, because it did not have access to the counter balancing national security evidence. In March 1994, the House of Lords refused leave to appeal. Following the report of the European Commission of Human Rights, Mr Chahal applied to be released pending the decision of the Court. That application was refused by Mr Justice Machherson risional Court on Novem-

ber 10, 1995, on the ground that he was unable to rule that the decision

to keep Mr Chahal in detention was irrational or perverse, particu-larly bearing in mind that the evidence relating to national sec-urity on which it was based was not smillable to him.

The application was lodged with the European Commission of Hu-man Rights on July 27, 1993 and

In its judgment, the European Court of Human Rights held as I Alleged violation of article 3

Mr Chahal claimed that if he were deported to India there was a breach of article 3 of the

A Applicability of article 3 in OII, C29ES It was well established in the case law of the Court that expul-

sion by a contracting state might give rise to an issue under article 3 of the Convention where substantial grounds had been shown for believing that an individual, if expelled, would face a real risk of being subjected to torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in the receiving country: see Soering v United Kingdom (The Times July 8, 1989; Series A No 161 p35 paragraphs 90-91), Cruz Varaz and Others v Sweden (The Times May 8 1991; Series A No 201 p28 paragraphs 69-70) and Vilvarajah and Others v United

Kingdom (The Times November 11, 1991; Series A No 215 p34 paragraph 103). B Expulsion cases involving alleged danger to national security The Court reaffirmed that article enshriped one of the most fundamental values in democratic societies: see Soering paragraph 88. It was well aware of the immense difficulties faced by states in modern times in protecting their communities from terror-

stances, the Convention prohibited in absolute terms torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, irrespective of the person in question. That pro-hibition was equally absolute in

It was therefore unnecessary for the Court to enter into a consideration of the Government's un-tested, but no doubt bona fide, allegations about Mr Chahal's terrorist activities and the threat posed by him to national security. The only relevant question was whether substantial grounds had been shown for believing that would be ill treated in India.

C Application of article 3
Since the Government had offered to return Mr Chahal to the evidence relating to the fate of Sikh militants throughout India, and not just in Punjab, was of particu-

The Court was persuaded by evidence corroborated from a number of sources, including reports of Amnesty International, the United States' Department of State Report on India and the Indian National Human Rights Com-mission, that until mid-1994 at least, elements in the Puniab police were accustomed to act without regard to the human rights of suspected Sikh militants and were capable of pursuing their targets into areas of Indian far away from

In recent years there had been improvements in the human rights situation in Punjah. However, in connection with the Punish police and no concrete evidence had been produced of any fundamental reform or reorganisation of the force.

Although there had been a Director General who had presided over some of the worst abuses this decade had only been replaced by his former deputy and intelligence chief. Less than two years ago that

well documented raids into other Indian states. The applicant's claim, that any recent reduction in the unlawful activity of the Punjab all the key figures in the campaign for Sikh separatism had been killed, forced abroad or rendered inactive by torture or the fear of torture, could not entirely be

discounted. The Court also found it significant that attested allegations of serious human rights violations had been levelled at the police elsewhere in India, for example, by the United Nations' Special Rapporteur on Torture and the Indian National Human Rights

The Court did not doubt the good faith of the Indian Government, which had made assurance to the British Government that Mr Chahal "would have no reason to expect to suffer mistreatment of any kind at the hands of the Indian authorities".

However, despite the efforts of

the Indian authorities to bring about reform, problems persisted. Against that background, the assurances were an inadequate guarantee of safety. The Court further considered

that Mr Chahal's high profile and the serious, albeit untested, allega-tions made against him by the British Government would be likely to make him a target of interest for hard-line elements in

Accordingly, the Court held, Judges Gölcüklü, Matscher, Sir John Freeland, Baka, Gotchev, Mifsud Bonnici and Levits dissenting, that the order for Mr Chahal's deportation to India, if implemented, would give rise to a violation of article 3. II Alleged violation of article 5

A Artide 5.1 It was not disputed that Mr

Chahal had been detained "with a view to deportation" within the

meaning of article 5.1(f). Under that provision, all that was red was that action was being taken with a view to deportation. It was immaterial whether the underlying decision to expel was lawful and it was not necessary to show that the detention was *reasonably considered necessary", for example to prevent the commission of an offence or escape. The deportation proceed-ings had, however, to be conducted with due diligence: otherwise, the

permissible under the Convention. The period under consideration commenced on August 16, 1990. when Mr Chahal was first detained, and ended on March 3. 1994, when the House of Lords

refused leave to appeal. Although he had remained in custody until the present day, that latter period should be distinguished because during that time the Government had refrained from deporting him in compliance with a request made by the Commission under its Rules of

Procedure. Mr Chahal's case had involved considerations of an extremely serious and weighty nature. It had been neither in his interests nor in the general public interest in the administration of justice that such decisions be taken hastily, without due regard to all the relevant issues and evidence.

In the exceptional circumstances of the case, although Mr Chahal time that was bound to give rise to concern, none of the periods taken by the courts or the executive for the various decisions in the domestic proceedings could be regarded as excessive, taken either individually or in combination.

It was also necessary to consider guarantees against arbitrariness procedure provided an important The panel, which included experienced judicial figures, was ably fully to review the evidence

relating to the national security threat represented by the ap-plicant. Although its report had never been made public, at the hearing before the Court the nent indicated that the panel had agreed with the Home Secretary that Mr Chahal ought to be deported on the ground of national security.

The Court considered that that procedure provided an adequate ruarantee that there were at least orima facie grounds for believing that, if Mr Chahal were at liberty. national security would be put at had not acted arbitrarily when it detention.

It followed that there had been no violation of article 5.1. Judges Gölcüklü, Peniti, De Mever, Martens. Palm and Makarczyk indicated their dissent. B Article 5.4

Article 5.4 required that any deprivation of liberty be subject to effective judicial control. Chahal had been detailed for six years, essentially because successive Home Secretaries had maintained that he could not safely be released for national security reasons.

However, the domestic courts did not have access to the national security evidence against him. Although all of that evidence was reviewed by the advisory panel, it did not offer sufficient procedural within the meaning of article 5.4.

The Court recognised that the use of confidential material might be unavoidable where national security was at stake. That did not mean, however, that the national authorities could be free from effective control by the domestic courts whenever they chose to assert that national security and terrorism were involved. it was possible to employ tech-

niques which both accommodated legitimate security concerns about the nature and sources of intellicorded the individual a substantial measure of procedural justice. In conclusion, the Court held unanimously that there had been a violation of article 5.4.

IJI Alleged violation of article 8 Mr Chahal were to be deported to article 3, it was not necessary to constitute an unjustifiable interference with the applicants' family life, in violation of article & Judges Pettiti and De Meyer dissented.

IV Alleged violation of article 13 The applicants claimed that they did not have available to then effective domestic remedies in relation to their complaints under articles 3, 5 and 8. In view of its findings under articles 5.4 and 5.8, the Court only had to examine the bined with article 3.

Given the fundamental im-portance of the prohibition of torture and the irreversible nature of the harm that might occur if the risk of ill treatment materialised, an effective remedy for Mr Chahal's article 3 complaint required independent scrutiny of his claim that he would be ill treated if

deported to India.

That scrutiny had to be carried out without regard to what he might have done to warrant expulsion or to any perceived threat to national security, since those considerations were immaterial in

However, neither the advisory panel nor the courts could review with reference solely to the question of risk, leaving aside national

Accordingly, the Court held unanimously that there had been a violation of Article 13. V Application of article 50

In view of its decision that there had been no violation of article 5.1. the Court made no award of damages in respect of the period of detention. It considered that the findings of violation constituted sufficient just satisfaction in respect of the other complaints. The applicants had claimed reimbursement of their legal costs

in the Strasbourg proceedings, totalling £77,755.97. The Court considered that excessive and awarded £45,000, less the 21,141 French francs already paid in legal

Court of Appeal

Law Report November 28 1996

Court of Appeal

How to qualify as a witness

Judgment November 141 A person who did not give oral evidence but whose statement was read at trial pursuant to section 23 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 was a witness for the purposes of section [f](ji) of the Criminal Evidence Act 1898 and the judge the defendant on his previous convictions where imputations had been made against that person by the defence.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in dismissing an a real by Vance Miller against his conviction in November 1995 at Manchester Crown Court (Judge Hammond and a jury) of two rent terms of 18 months

Mr Michael Blakey, who did not appear below, for the appellant; Mr Bernard Lever for the Crown. LORD JUSTICE ROSE, giving the judgment of the court, said that the prosecution case was that the appellant had kidnapped one Rob

kitchen unit.

ert Macey and his common-law wife, Carol Jones. They had been neighbours of the appellant and the offences took place against a background of a missing or stolen

At the trial, on an application made under section 23 of the 1988 Act, the statement of Carol Jones was read because she failed to attend court through fear.

made imputations against Carol Jones. The judge accordingly permitted cross-examination of the appellant, in relation to his pre-

iffifi of the 1898 Act. On appeal, Mr Blakey argued that it was not, as a matter of law, open to the judge to permit that cross-examination because such imputations as were made by Mr Mugame in the course of his evidence were not imputations made against a witness.

But it seemed to their Lordships that a witness within section 1(f)(ii) was a person with material evidence to give. Such evidence might

Court powerless to intervene

13(3) of the Criminal Justice Act 1925 or section 23 of the 1988 Act; in Lord Justice Millett and Lord Justice Waller a statement of a witness the subject [Judgment November 13] of a conditional witness order or a

notice of additional evidence in Where an adoption agency had issued to prospective adoptive parents a notice, under section accordance with section 9 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967 which might be read at trial; or orally before a jury. 30(I)(b) of the Adoption Act 1976. of the agency's intention not to allow the children to remain in the In all three cases, there was placed before the jury evidence of equal weight for their consideration. A wimess was none the less a wimess if dead, beyond the prospective parents' home, and the parents had not before issue of the notice made an application for an adoption order under section 30(2). there was no jurisdiction for the seas, unfit, not required or unwillcourt to intervene under section 30 and no scope for an application for Solicitors: Burton Copeland, an interim order under section 25.

> which was irrelevant to the The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by a prospec-tive adoptive father from the dismissal by Mr Justice Johnson of the father's adoption applications in respect of two children which were issued after receipt of a section 30(1)(b) notice of the local authority's intention to remove the

Mr Jeremy Posnansky, QC and Mr Roger Bickerdike for the father, Mrs Jill Black, QC, for the local authority.

clear. A child was to be returned to the adoption agency within seven days of either the prospective adopters (under section 30(1)(a)) or the agency (under section 30(1)(b)) giving notice. In either event it was

a matter between the persons with whom the child had been placed and the agency and there was no Provision was made, however, within the framework for the decision of the agency to remove the child placed with prospective adopters after an adoption applica tion was made. In that event, and only in that event, the local authority required the leave of the court and the decision was that of

the court and not of the prospective adopters or of the agency. In the instant case the notice by the agency was given in advance of the application to adopt by the father and there was, clearly, no jurisdiction in Part III of the Act to

mable the court to intervene. Mr Posnansky had suggested that, provided the prospective parent had issued his application to adopt within the seven-day period, since an applicant was entitled to apply for an interim order under section 25 of the Act and, if should adjourn the agency's application to dismiss the adoption applications and under its inherent jurisdiction grant an injunction restraining the agency from removing the children pending

application on its merits. The reference in the heading of might be somewhat misleading to those accustomed to interim orders made in Children Act 1989 or wardship proceedings. It was clear that the purpose of section 25 was wholly different.

It appeared to be comparatively little used in contrast to the frequent use of interim orders in Children Act cases. The reason was simple, section 25 was not intended to be an order to preserve the status quo at an early stage or the define the interim position of the children and parties. It had a

different purpose.

It was there to give additional powers to the court where all the necessary matters had been deale with at the substantive hearing of the adoption application, including the requirement as to residence, but there was still some doubt about the wisdom of making

Regina v Miller counts of false imprisonment, one Before Lord Justice Rose, Mr Justice Latham and Mr Justice L could thus be extended and the determination of the application

postponed. One further reason for rejecting Mr Posnansky's argument was th difference between an adoption order and a Children Act order. Adoption was final where as other child orders could always be changed if the circumstances

In particular, her Ladyship was satisfied that section 25 was not intended to give to a person with whom the children were not living the opportunity to qualify as prospective adopter and then to adjourn the hearing of the adoption applications until he did

Lord Justice Millett and Lord Justice Waller agreed. Solicitors: Switalski's, Wakefield: Mr James W. F. Holt, Wakefield.

Correction In State Bank of India v Sood and Others (The Times Novembe 7) the solicitors for the third and fourth defendants were

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be given in a variety of ways: in a Service, North West, **Procedure changes** in Patents Court

ing through fear.

Patents Court: Practice in future it should be a require explanation Desired alterations in procedure in the Patents Court, partly to remove possible confusions in authority, were handed down by Mr Justice

Jacob in the Chancery Division on

Tebruary 19.
Orders following judgment

1 Where a judgment was made available in draft before being given in open court and it was desired to ask the court for an order when judgment was given, the parties should, in advance of that occasion, exchange drafts of the desired consequential order. It was highly undesirable that one party should spring a proposal on the other for the first time when

judgment was given. Experiments not part of normal 2 The position of the admission at trial of evidence of experiments conducted for litigious purposes but not specifically for the case in hand required clarification.

Order 104, rule 12 of the Rules of the Supreme Court referred to establishing any fact by experi-mental proof. That included experiments done in other jurisdic tions or any other experiments not done as part of normal research. In future the standard form of order made on the summons for directions (itself subject to vari-ation for any particular case) should read as follows:

Where a party desires to establish any fact by experimental proof, including an experiment conducted for the pruposes of brigation or otherwise not being an experiment conducted in th normal course of research, he shall [usual appropriate provisions as to service of a notice of experiments]. The italicised words were new to the approved draft standard order.

Experiments done for litigation but not disclosed 3 The Intellectual Property Court Users' Committee had discussed the question of experiments conducted by a party for the purposes of litigation but not disclosed or adduced by it following the judg-ments in Hongwell Ltd v Appli-ance Components Ltd ance Components Ltd (unreported, February 22, 1996) and Electrolux Northern Ltd v Black & Decker (The Times May 6,

As a result it was proposed that

ment that an expert's report should include the statement. "I know of no experiment which is inconsistent with my evidence."

Further, practitioners were re-minded that it would be contrary to their duty to the court to allo any expert evidence to be given inconsistent with an experiment of which they, but not the expert had knowledge.

4 In appropriate cases the Patents Court would adopt a more vig-orous approach to costs. In particular it would be willing to consider applications for immedi ate assessment by the judge who had just tried the case rather than remit the matter for taxation. Such an assessment could be done on the basis of the actual detailed bills

sent to clients.
Without in any way limiting the court's discretion as to when it would exercise that power, it might in particular be exercised in a case where the delays caused by a taxation of costs could themselves give rise to injustice. Notices to admit facts in an application for a declaration of

non-infringement 5 Under Order 104, rule 11(1)(a), a list of documents in an application for a declaration of non-infringement of a patent must be served by each party within 21 days after service of the notice of admissions under rule 10(2), or within 21 days after the close of pleadings. However Order 104, rule 10 did not expressly cover notices to admit facts and notices of admissions in an application for a declaration of non-infringement of

A rule change would be pro-posed shortly to broaden the ambit of rule 10. In the meantime, the parties to any action for a declaration of non-infringement of a patent were encouraged, where appropriate, to serve notices to admit facts within the period provided in Order 104, rule 10(1), Applications for interlocatory unctions: trial dates 6 When an application for an interlocutory injunction was made the plaintiff should, where prac-ticable, make prior inquiries and

ations as to the estimated

length of trial and possible trial dates.

PUBLIC NOTICES LEGAL NOTICES WINTERTONS ESTATE AGENCY LTD COMPANY NUMBER 2110/715 ELE (NORTH WEST) 1992 LTD COMPANY NUMBER 2133164 ROYAL LIFE ESTATES (WEST) LTD O'COMPANY NUMBER 21339648 LTD O'COMPANY NUMBER 21339648 ESTATE AGENTS LITD COMPANY NUMBER 213496 POLLOCK & SUCHAN ESTATE AGENCY LTD COMPANY NUMBER 2274246 POLLOCK & SUCHAN ESTATE COMPANY NUMBER 127466 ANDREW RESEVES PROPERTY SERVICES LITT COMPANY NUMBER 1532124 ALLEN & RARRIS THANACLAL ALLEN & RARRIS THANACLAL GENYLES LIBERTING COMPANY NUMBER 1532124 ALLEN & RARRIS THANACLAL COMPANY NUMBER 1532124 ALLEN & RARRIS THANACLAL COMPANY NUMBER 1532124 COMPANY NUMBER 1532124 CHARITY COMMISSION Charity: The Osteopathic Educational Foundation. Scheme for the regulation of the Charity. Beforenote The Charlity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charlity. A copy can be seen for the next month at Reddiffice Cremman Riock, 5 Great College Street, Leaden SWIP 35; or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed arranged authors of the College Street, Leaden SWIP 35; or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed arranged authors of the College SWIP 35; or a copy can be considered to the college SWIP 35; or a copy can be commissioned as a considered to the college SWIP 35; or a considered to the college SWIP 35; or a
LEGAL NOTICES IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 AND
IN THE MATTER OF
TOBYSEKSHI LIMITED
FORMERLY WARMWELL LEIS
LIMITED

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

FLE TOURDEG ROLIDAYS
LIMITED
FLE SERVICES LIMITED
FLE SERVICES LIMITED
FLE SERVICES LIMITED
FUTCH IS HEREEY GYEN that
the creditors of the above companess are required, on or badors 27
real content of the services of the
particulaits of their debts or
claims, and the Rumas and
addresses of their solicitors (if
any) to me, Stephen James Bobsen of Pancis Clabs, 27 Devon
Squass, Newton Abbot, Devon,
Tol 2 2111, the Liquidate or the
above compounded to the required to
prove their their content of the
prove their debts or claims at
such time and place as shall be
specified in such notice, or is
default thereof they will be
arciated from the benefit of any
distribution made before such distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated this 20 November 1996
S | Hobson Lucultarion NA. This notice is purely formal as all known crediton have been, or will be, paid in full.

EWART P.LC.

IN THE MATTER OF
THE COMPARIES
(NORTHERN RELAND) ORDER
NOTICE IS HEREITY GIVEN that a
Petition was presented to the
High Court of justice in Northers
Indiand, Chancery Division on 11
November 1996 for the candis
spetion of the canadisation of the
smoonst outstanding to the credi
of the share premium account of metion of the concellation of the amount outstanding to the credit of the share premium account of the above named Company at 15 August 1996, being 22,322,324. AND NOTICE is further given that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the judge at the Ecyal Courts of Justice, Meading the 16th day of December 1996 at 10.00 a.m. Any creditor or shareholder of the said Company destring to oppose the making of an Order for the confidentation of these presides account as at 15 August 17th hearthg in purson or by Coursellation of these for their purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any person requiring the same by the said the same by the maders are the same by the conference of the said for the same by the furnished to any person requiring the same by the saider sections of the regulations on payments of the regulated change SERVICES LIMITED
(FOTBERTY VIC FLOR HOMES LIMI)
COMPANY NUMBER 947.124
OPSTON COMPUTER SERVICES
LIMITED
COMPANY NUMBER 929057
(ALL IN NUMBERS YOUNTARY
LIQUIDATION) COMPANY NUMBER 929057
(ALL IN MEMBERS POLUMEANY
LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE TO CREATIONS
ON 25 November 1996 the above
resent companies were placed in
monabear volumeary liquidation
Price Westerbouse was appointed
itquidator by the sharwholder. The liquidator gives notice undar
the provisions of Rule 4,182A of
the lineary Rules 1986 that
the creditors of the companies
ment send details, in writing, of
any claims against the companies
ment send details, in writing, of
any claims against the companies
the liquidator. No.1 Lordon
December 1996 which is the lart
day for proving claims. The liquidator aiso gives nortice that he
will then tunke a flush distribution who does nor make a claim by
the date mentioned will not be
habeded in the distribution.
Addition or conditions have been or
Addition or conditions have been or
Addition or conditions have been or
All Lordon
Liquidator
Liquidator undermentioned Solicito payment of the regulated for the same. Dated the 26th day of Nov 1994 Johns Elliot 11 Lombard Street Belfart STI 1EG Raft REFK/W.110 Solicitors for the said Co

IN THE MATTER OF TOSYSREGHT LIMITED FORMERLY WARMWELL LIMITED LIMITED IN THE MATTER OF THE INSCLVENCY RIVER 1984. In accordance with Rele 4:106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, notice is hereby given that Styphen James Hobson of Finners Clark, 23, Devok Squake, Newton Abbot, Devon, TO22 2:100 km appointed Liquidelty of the above company by the members on 14 Reyember 1994. Dated this 19 November 1996. S J Hobson. LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS PLEASE TELEPHONE 0171-782 7344 FAX: 0171-782 7827 Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

IN PARLIAMENT **SESSION 1996-97**

GIROBANK plc (TRANSFER) NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application is being made to Parliament in the present Session by Girobank pic for an Act under the above name or short title for the purposes of which the following in the purposes of which

under the above name or short title for the purposes of which the following is a concise summary:

To provide for the vesting in Alliance and Leicester plc ("A&I.") of the undertakings of Girobank plc ("Cirobank") and Alliance & Leicester Personal Finance Limited ("ALPT"); for such vesting to take place on a dale or dates to be determined by the directors of A&I. in relation to all property and liabilities of, or held by, Girobank and ALPT; the validation of references in deeds and other instruments; statutory provisions and other documents, powers, authorities, negotiable instruments, bailment, securities and proceedings and the provisions of the Bankers' Books Evidence Act 1879; the continuance of accounts and of interests in land; and to make further provision supplementary to or consequential upon the purposes aforesaid, including the application of the intended Act may be inspected and copies obtained at the price of £1 each at the head office of Girobank plc at 49 Park Lane, London: at the Alliance & Leicester Building Society, Regional Office, 63 Royal Avenue, Bellast; and at the offices of the undermentioned Parliamentary Agents.

Objection to the Bill may be made by depositing a Petition against k. If the Bill originates in the House of Commons the latest date for depositing such a Petition in the House of Lords the latest date for depositing such a Petition in the House of Lords the latest date for depositing such a Petition in the House of Lords the latest date for depositing such a Petition in the House of Lords the latest date for depositing such a Petition in the House of Lords the latest date for depositing to the Thouse will be 30th January 1997; if It originates in the House of Lords the latest date for depositing on the House of Lords of the Clerk of the Parliaments in the House of Lords of the Clerk of the Parliaments, House of Lords, or the undermentioned Parliamentary Agents, the following is a concise summary:-

Dated 28th November 1996

JULIAN HEPPLEWHITE, Girobank plc, 49 Park Lane, London W1Y 4EQ, Company Secretary.

SHERWOOD & CO., 35 Great Peter Street, London SW1P 31 R Parliamentary Agents.

CONFINENCE (ALLSPOR

West Indies fear Warne's ability on imperfect pitch

IF Michael Jackson is a cricket follower, which seems highly improbable, he might be mortified by the suspicion that his visit to Australia has helped to sabotage the hopes and aspirations of the West Indies

American musician gave a concert last week at the Sydney Cricket Ground. It attracted mixed reviews, as has the subsequent discovery of an unusually bare pitch for the Test match which begins on the ground tomorrow.

Australia, who have Shane Warne, are delighted; West Indies, who have no spin bowler worthy of the name, are desolate.

Officials are busily denying a link between the concert and the state of the surface, but it is irrefutable that the timing of Jackson's show exacerbated the problems of the ground staff in preparing a suitable pitch a month earlier than the traditional Sydney Test date. the growing trend of using sports ground for mass attendance concerts is appropriate to the peculair requirements of

Graham Halbish, chief ex-Cricket Board (ACB), blames Pakistan for the rescheduling of the Syndey game. "For the second year running, they were unable to arrive as early explained. This meant we

Gary Kirsten, the South Afri-

ca openers, hammered the

India bowling attack, helping

their side to an impressive 339

for two at the end of the first

day of the second Test match,

Hudson made 146 and Kir-

sten contributed 102 in a stand

of 236 which fell just 24 runs

short of South Africa's first-

wicket record set by Jack Siedle and Bruce Mitchell

The pair took advantage of

against England in 1930.

in Calcutta yesterday.

could not get our one-day Sydney Tests. Walsh prefers to series properly started at the usual time and had to fit in another Test."

Test match and then came

from behind to win the series,"

team of greater accomplishment, scope and mobility than

the present combination, which relies too heavily on the

batting of Brian Lara - who

made 277 in Sydney in 1993 -

and the bowling, still demand-ing but noticably ageing, of

Walsh and Curtly Ambrose.

problems afflicting the West

Indies is the lack of a settled

opening pair. Another is the

absence of a high-quality

wicketkeeper to support the

pace attack. This is nothing

new. They have been strug-

gling for some years to replace

a suitable successor to Jeffrey

bowling is not what it was and

offer more mature and pene-

trative spin than for many

To come to Australia with-

out a single specialist slow

done, is tantamount to an

admission of limitations and.

perhaps, to a concession of this

Sydney Test. Whether Austra-

hia choose to play Peter McIn-

tyre as a second leg spinner,

or settle for Michael Bevan

and Mark Waugh as part-

timers, Warne has the perfect

opportunity to confirm his

AUSTRALIA (from): M A Taylor (eaplan), T G Elitott, R T Ponting, M E Waugh, G Blewett, M G Bavan, I A Heatly, S K Warne, R Rorfiel, G D McGrath, M S Kesprousez, N Gillespie, P E McIntyre

WEST INDIES (from) S.L. Campbell, R.G. Samuels, B.C. Lara, S. Chanderpaul, C.L.

years past.

rehabilitation.

One of the more blatant

That, however, was with a

he pointed out.

Halbish was highly satisfied by the match attendance of more than 50,000 in Brisbane, 15,000 above the ACB budget and the biggest Test crowd at the Gabba since 1982, but he warned that the second Test may suffer for being considered premature. "Sydney people like to have their Test match during holiday time," he said.

However, a more pressing question than whether Sydney is ready for the West Indies is whether the West Indies are eady for Sydney. Courtney Walsh, their noble captain, was making all the right noises yesterday, but he is well aware of his team's shocking record on the ground and of the probability that prevailing conditions will conspire against them.

Already, they are 1-0 down in the series after a first Test that they could and should have dictated from the time they won the toss on an opening morning, when the pitch was responsive to seam. Now, in an entirely different environment, West Indies will be hard-pressed to avoid a second defeat, with all the potential that carries for fractured spirit and diminished

Faced with the damning record of only two wins in 12

perfect batting conditions and sloppy fielding by India, who

dropped three catches in front

of a crowd of 85,000 at Eden

Garden as South Africa set

about avenging the 64-run defeat in the first Test in

Javagal Srinath broke Kir-

sten's stumps with an in-

cutter in the first over after

tea. Hudson was dismissed

an hour before the close by

Ahmedabad last week.

Venkatesh Prasad.

Openers lay fine base



David Lloyd, the coach, makes a point to Alec Stewart during England's net session in Harare yesterday

Houghton relies on inside edge

the peerless batting partner-ship of Gordon Greenidge and avid Houghton sat on the verandah outside Desmond Haynes and to find the colonial-style pa-Nor is it an original thought vilion at the Harare Sports that they lack the variety of an Club and watched effective spin bowler. This has groundstaff putting the finishing touches to two of the pitches that the touring Eng-land cricket team will play on been an omission, largely of their own design, for most of the past 20 years. Suddenly, though, it is dragging them in the next week. Between down because their own fast them, looking equally virginal and true, lay the strip for the second Test match that starts because opposition countries

on Boxing Day. Houghton, Zimbabwe's leading batsman and coach. has seen countless international sides play at this oasis bowler, as West Indies have of rural charm in the country's capital and knows how to read the runes. "I am quietly optimistic," he said. "We will give them more of a fight than they think we will."

Such confidence is surprising for a man so intimately involved with a team that has won only one of its 20 Test matches and he concedes that on occasions it has been severely dented.

No wonder. On the face of it, Zimbabwe's cricketing resources are pitifully thin. The country possesses only about 350 adults who play the game seriously - mainly in weekSimon Wilde finds the Zimbabwe coach quietly confident about the Test series

end leagues — and there are only two first-class teams, Mashonaland and Matabeleland, and just nine professionals, including Houghton. The national squad rarely

meets en masse because of the business commitments of its amateur members. Last weekend, for example, Mashonaland were deprived of three of their leading players because Mark Dekker had to handle a shipment of ostriches. Andy Waller was planting tobacco on his farm and Eddo Brandes's chicken flock was sick.

Against that, the game has a strong base within schools and is being taken up enthusiastically by black Africans, three of whom played recently against Pakistan. And if one takes account of the Zimbabweans who left home to pursue professional careers before Test status was granted - such as Graeme Hick, Kevin Curran, Trevor Penney and Steve Elworthy — there is

hardly a dearth of talent. "I have sometimes gone myself that we should really not be playing Test cricket," Houghton said. "But then I

think of the terrible struggles sides like West Indies had in their early years as a Test country and realise that these are still early days. We have not been disgraced. We must just hold it together and continue to expand our base. But I am impatient and want

So from where does Houghton's self-belief about England's visit spring? It comes, perhaps, from the knowledge that England have come to win while Zimbabwe would be satisfied to draw the two Tests. "We have no con-



Houghton: positive

trol over the preparation of the pitches," Houghton said, but I have spoken to the head groundsman and he says he is preparing two pitches to last five days. They will not be raging turners. England, he implies, may get frustrated. However, the key factor is

that Houghton possesses an intimate knowledge of the opposition having worked as Worcestershire's coach for two years. He is also a fine player in his own right, the holder of the record Test score for his country 266 against Sri Lanka two years ago and averaging almost 50 in his international career.

Houghton has prepared pen-pictures of the toming party and further insights will be passed on to his side nearer which will doubtless be England's perceived weakness against leg spin bowling. Zimhabwe possess a highly prom-ising exponent in Paul Strang

Houghton is 39, the oldest man playing Test cricket, and he intends to retire early next year. "The basis of my plan to give up has always been the same. I want to see my family and I hardly ever do. It is the because I am very keen to carry on coaching in

SPORTS POLITICS

Governing bodies hit by cutback in funding

BY JOHN GOODBODY

THE Government yesterday broke its pledge that money from the National Lottery would not affect the revenue funding of the sports councils.

Figures from the Department of National Heritage confirmed that there will be a ten per cent cut in public funding of the United Kingdom and English Sports Councils between 1995 and 2000, even if inflation remains

The councils will get £45.4 million for 1997-98 compared with £47.5 million in the present year. Even if the E400,000 earmarked for children's play, which next year will be given to the National Playing Fields Association, is discounted, the total figure still represented the second successive year that funding has declined.

The Government yesterday argued that the money was exactly what had been origi-nally budgeted and planned a year ago. Iain Sproat, the Minister for Sport, said after speaking at the annual confererice of the Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR) at Market Bosworth, that the funding was at a standstill this

He said: "The Treasury wanted to cut public spending for the reasons which the Chancellor explained yesterday [in the Budget] and sport had to play its part. There was so much money coming into sport from elsewhere that there was no doubt that it had an influence on the Treasury's thinking. It is not just the National Lottery but the amount of money from television.

Mr Sproat did not explain that most of the smaller bodies aided by the sports councils do not benefit from the huge sums available from television contracts with large organisations, such as the FA Premier League. However, it is true that many sports will be helped by the £40 million of revenue funding for elite ath-

letes announced recently. Mr Sproat told the conference that he expected the sports councils to make some further modest savings". He said: "There is still room for further efficiency savings the sports councils. The mission nowadays is to seek continual improvement. cameot stand still.

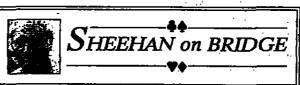


HOW THE

Full details and analysis of what the Chancellor has in store for higher and further education in The Times Higher **Education Supplement** at newsagents tomorrow.

OUT TOMORROW

THE TIMES



By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

Many experts, and most spectators, dislike complicated bidding played good and entertaining bridge using simple methods comprehensible to the man in the street. The organisers of the Macallan international pairs tournament are following this approach for the 1997 event: only simple bidding systems will be allowed. However, I think it is clear that an artificial method played well has an edge over a natural one. The prize for the "best bid hand" at the 1996 Lederer Memorial Trophy was won by Jason and Justin Hackett, for this effort.

Dealer East +QJ1042 4A4 *****A97543 **¥**J74 **+** K 6 **⊕ Q** 10 **FRAY**

This is the explanation of the (1) Asking for five-card majors. (2) Denying a five-card major. (3) Showing four hearts, forcing to 2 NT.

(4) Denying four hearts and howing less than a maximum. (5) Natural and forcing. (6) Showing three-card heart

Four Hearts is much the best game contract. 3 NT goes two off on a spade lead, and with the king of diamonds

goes down. Four Hearts makes when the hearts are 3-3 or, if they are 4-2, if the king of diamonds is onside.

plicated methods, but from opened INT there is no reasonable way to Four Hearts sing natural methods. ☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Philip Howard

PYKNIC a. An alfresco supper b. A computer cursor c. Short and squat

ZEIGARNIK a. A Balkan irregular b. A sacrifice at Chess c. Remembering work

EMUNCTORY a. Hortative
 b. A feudal Court official
 c. Nose-blowing **ЦМРОРО** a. A surrogate father

b. The avocado c. A Nigerian chieftain

Answers on page 50



BY RAYMOND KEENE

notched up an enviable stream of arst prizes in top events in 1996. He White: Veselin Topalov

4 Ned4 5 Nc3 6 Bc4 7 Bb3 9 0-0

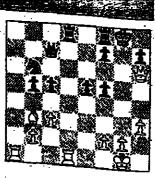
K14 Clo7+ Clo8+ Clo7 gyf15 Cloa5 Ke4 Kd5 Clc7 a5



Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Alekhine -Junge, Cracow 1942, Although Black is a pown ahead, his position on the kingside has een broken up How did Alekhine now exploit this to



SNOOKER: PRESSURE MOUNTS IN BATTLE TO BE WORLD NO 1

Higgins shows enduring quality in bid for top spot

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'y cuthad

n funding

The state of the s

AN INTRIGUING subplot to the United Kingdom championship at Preston Guild Hall is the ongoing battle for top spot in the provisional world rankings between Stephen Hendry and John Higgins, both of whom have reached the quarter finals.

Hendry, who until recently was also being challenged by Peter Ebdon, looked set to enjoy more breathing space which Higgins trailed Tony Drago, of Malta, 6-0 in the first session of their thirdround encounter on Monday. However, the amiable Scot, 21, recovered to snatch a dramatic 9-8 victory late on Tuesday evening with a last red to black clearance of 35 in a nail-biting deciding frame.

Although he played appreciably below his best. Higgins will draw considerable encouragement from the manner in which he coped with such intense pressure, when one mistake could have spelt the end of his title hopes. Higgins, who faces Mark energy than Ken Doherty,

he spent the summer multing over a poor positional shot and subsequent missed pink that would have secured a 13-11 quarter-final win over Ronnie O'Sullivan in the

world championship.

He lost the match 13-12, a result that served to com-pound the disappointment generated by his 98 defeat on the black ball against Nigel Bond in the British Open final a few weeks earlier.

"When the score reached 8-8 against Tony all I could think about was what had happened against Ronnie and Nigel. I would have been heartbroken to lose again and that's why I was so relieved." Higgins, who indulged in an uncharacteristic display of emotion by lifting his arms aloft when victory was secured, said.

Higgins, who only avoided a first-round defeat by recovering from an 8-7 deficit to edge Steve Newbury 9-8, has expended far more nervous

Williams today, had begun to doubt his ability to prevail in such fraught finishes. Indeed, such fraught finishes. Indeed, lead over Alain Robidoux yesterday, he again looked a prime candidate for the £70,000 first prize.

An 88 clearance, allowed to continue by an outrageous fluke on the last red, gave Doherty the opening frame, he led 2.0 by potting yellow to

THERD ROUND: J Higgins (Scot) bt A Drago (Matha) 9-8; P Hunter (Engl bt T Marphy (N les) 9-7.
CULATIEN-FINALS: K Doherty (Ire) leeds A Rehidenz (Can) 5-5; A McMarce (Scot)

pink and moved 3-1 ahead with a well constructed break of 71 in the fourth.

Robidoux, who was victorious in his previous two meetings with Doherty, won a lowscoring fifth frame before levelling the match at 3-3, courtesy of a run of 98. Indeed. he was on course to equal the highest break of the event's televised phase — held at present by Hendry with 140 -

short range.

Stalling the French-Canadian's momentum, Doherty convincingly won the seventh frame and established a twoframe cushion entering the final session with a 54 break. John Parrott, the United Kingdom champion in 1991, and Alan McManus, his conqueror in the semi-finals of the Regal Scottish Masters in September, were level at 4-4 after opening exchanges in which neither player could

assert his authority.

McManus, I-O and 2-I down, led 3-2 by snatching the frame on the black after Parrott, 29 points to the good with only the colours remaining, had gone in off the yellow. In the sixth frame, Parrott administered a dose of McManus's own medicine by rallying from 60 points adrift with a 71 clearance.

Having fallen 4-3 behind. McManus, renowned for producing his best in adversity, accounted for the closing frame of the afternoon in a



Robidoux at the table yesterday against Doherty, the world No 7, who leads the French-Canadian 5-3

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Secre-numio 98. Describ 87. Affects 101 Vancou-ver 80; Charlotte 97. Seattle 89; LA Letjens 100 Philadelphia 98; Houston 102 Portigori 107 (017) Joiles 105: San Antonio 101; Den-ver 117. Procests, 108; Mismi 107. Conta-

BOWLS

BODELWYDDAN CASTLE, Clwyd; British-leise ahost met chempionahip; Interna-tional cleumpionahip; Teeme: heland: 75 Wales JR, England 69 Scotterad 29; indend 51 Scotland 29; England 36 Wales 47; heland 51 England 30; Wales 49 Scotland 34 Standings: 1, Indend; 2, Wales; 3, England; 4, Scotland: Singles; Indend (J Carland) 15 England (N Ratcliffe) 13; Wales (C. Jones) 14 Scotland (J Shields) 21-10; England: 15 Wales 17; heland 14 Scotland 14; England: 12 Scotland 11; Wales 11; heland 12 Standings: 1, Wales, 2, Indend;

YORK HALL, Beffrant Green: World Bosting Council International bentamewight chemplometry (12 mds): Wille Perdomo (Dorn) bt Vince Feeney (re) rs' 10th. Heavyweight (4mds): Nooth Velcuey (Russ) bt Darren Feen (Welse) nd 1st. Heavyweight (4mds): John Ruiz (US) bt Your Velstrator (Fees) nt 2nd. Super-middle-weight (4mds): John Ruiz (US) bt Your Velstrator (Fees) nt 2nd. Super-middle-weight (Rmds): Oand Stare (Bury St Edmunds) bt Hey Webb (Stepney) as Bith. CONCORD CENTRE, Sheffield: Super-middle-weight (Smds) - Herol Graham (Stefned) bt Teny Ford (US) pts. Super-middle-weight (Emds) - Darny Southen (Senstey) bt Pat Burin (Livepool) pts. Light-middle-weight (Emds) Jason Barker (Sheffield) bt Ray Newby (Nottingham) pts.

Second Test match

India v South Africa CALCUITIA (South Africa won toss): South Africa have accord 339 for two wicksts against india: SOUTH AFRICA: First innings

G Kinste to Street 102
H H Sibbs not cut 29
D J Californ rod out 29
Edna (b 5, ib 20, nb 9) 34

Total (2 white) "W.J.Cregis B.M. Mohitier, L.Klussens, ID.J. Richardson, P.L. Symbox, A.A. Donald and P.R. Adams to bet. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-236, 2-296

POLIT DY WIRE 15:1-250, 2-250

SCHILLING: Smath 25-480-1; Prasad 19-3-63-1; Joshi 12-1-48-0; Garguly 3-1-10-0; Kurnbie 17-1-62-0; Hawani 14-2-51-0.

RIDNA: R. S. Dravid, IN R. Mongie, S. C. Garguly, S. R. Tendalian, M. Arbanuzidin, VV S. Lauman, J. Sernath, A. Kurnbie, S. Loohi, S. K. V. Posad, N. D. Hawani.

Limiter 26-1-260. Umpires: B.C. Coorey (Sn Lenks) and V.K. Ramaguerry (India).

RUGBY UNION Counties of Origin Sense

- FOOTBALL

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FOOTBALL

Tolscay's faits results
FA CUP: First-round replayer Barnet 1
Farriborough 0; Brighton 1 Sudbury Town 1
Sudbury won 4-3 ort penelties); Bristol City
Swarnes 0; Hayes 0; Stevenage 2; Huil 8
Whitiby Town 4 (sad); Milwell 0 Woking 1;
Fushicin 8 Demond's 2 Briefern Wood 3;
Scarborough 1 Strewsbury 0; Watesi 3
Northwich 1; Weschern 2 Colwyn Bay 0;
York 3 Harthepool 0.
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ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL LEAGUE (NH.): Boston 2 Philadelphia 0; Florida 4 Buffelo 3; Toporão 3 Vancourer 2; NY Rangers 3 Phoenix 1; Edmonarn 10 Calgary 1.

ICE SKATING

REAL TENNIS

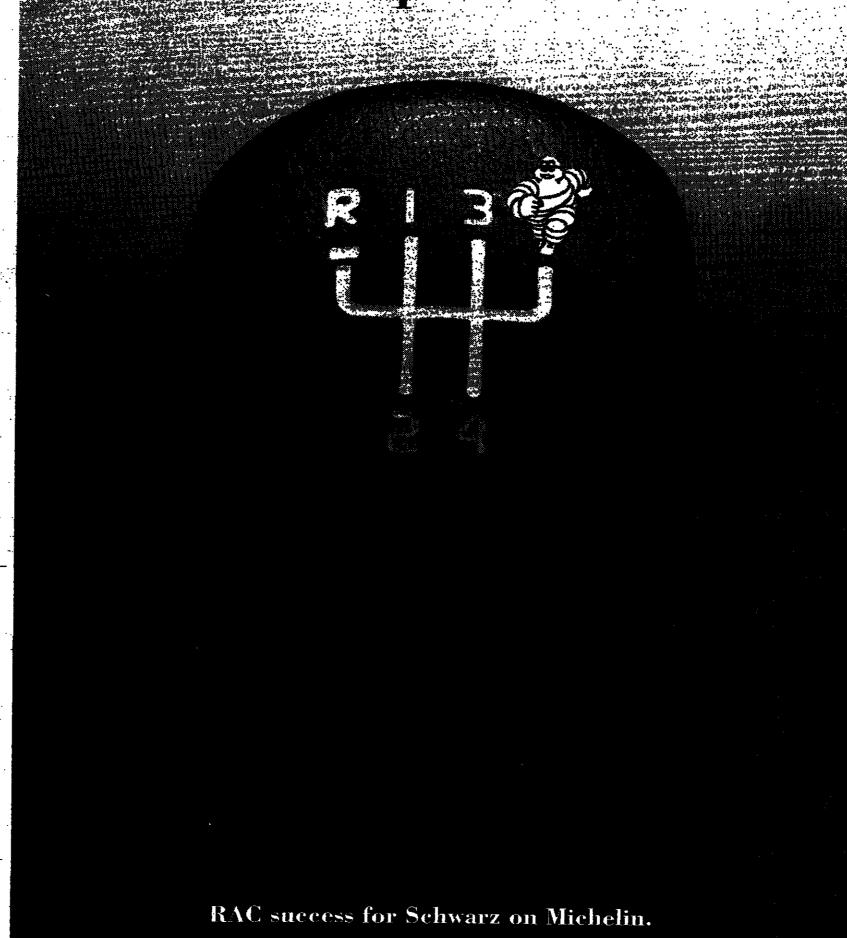
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Camping 5. CLUS MATCHES (Tuesday): Bash 40 Co based Sarv 20; Rugby 32 HM Presons 33

SQUASH SSL CLIP CHARTER-FINAL DRAW: KL Lortherts v Bashop's Stortlond; Brostourne v Ella Stockhorkers Lingfleid; Manchester Northern v Derkham Wire Quers Hallfac, Tarmeorth Street Motors Duffleid v Dunraven Windows Massing. Ties to be played December 18

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FOOTBALL

Case unwilling to pack his bags despite Cup exit

JIMMY CASE, the Brighton and Hove Albion manager. said yesterday that he would not leave the Nationwide League's bottom club despite their FA Cup exit at the hands of Sudbury Town, of the Dr Martens League, in a first-round replay at the Goldstone Ground on Tuesday night.

Case, who spent more than an hour fielding questions from irate supporters outside the ground after Brighton's defeat in a penalty shoot-out, is determined to improve the club's fortunes.

"I speak to a lot of people within the game and they all say what a job i have. I am not sure if there's anyone who would take it if it became available. To go out of the FA Cup to Sudbury is bitterly disappointing, but it goes a lot deeper than just this one particular game. Unsettling events have been going on since before I took over and it's like having one hand tied behind your back."

"We haven't had any good news for such a long time. although I've been around long enough to know that things can eventually turn in football and I am prepared to

keep chipping away."
Brighton fell behind to Ian Brown's goal but they equalised before half-time through Craig Maskell, the former Southampton striker, before the non-league side triumphed 4-3 in the shoot-out.

"I never had any doubt that we could win it," Richie Powling, the Sudbury manager, said. "The key to our success was that all the players were hungry and keen to cause an upset. Sudbury is only a small market town and with our resources the result is a magnificent achievement."

Clive Walker was described as a "shining example" after Woking added to their FA Cup giantkilling repertoire by dismissing Millwall, the Nationwide League second division leaders, in a replay at the New

Walker, 39, the former Chelsea forward, drew heavily on his vast experience to slide in the only goal and set the Vauxhall Conference team on course for a second-round meeting with Cambridge United. Walker struck after nine minutes to add to the penalty he had scored in a 2-2 draw in the first meeting.

Gillingham revealed yesterday that Matt Bryant, their defender, missed the defeat by Ipswich in the Coca-Cota Cup not because of the reported stomach upset but because he had 40 pellets embedded in his leg after a weekend shooting accident near his home in Bristol.

Woking, who famously won an FA Cup tie 4-2 at West Bromwich Albion in 1991 before losing 1-0 away to Everton, then withstood fierce pressure as Miliwall fell at the first hurdle for the first time since losing to Slough Town in

It is the seventh successive season that Geoff Chapple's side have reached the second round and Chapple paid tribute to the contribution made by Walker. "Clive Walker was shining example to the others and deserves his manof-the-match award. Not many 39-year-olds can be as fit as he is." he said.

Duane Darby, who nearly did not play because of an

injury, completed a double hat-trick for Hull City, of the Nationwide League third division, to help them to an 8-1 win over Whitby, the Northern League team, after extra

Whitby were leading 4-3 when Darby claimed his fourth goal of the night a minute from the end of normal time. Terry Dolan, the Hull manager, said: "Duane had a knock on his knee and has been feeling under the weather. If we had had another striker available he wouldn't have played."

Jason Cundy woke up yesterday in hospital with a throbbing head after Ipswich Town secured a place in the last eight of the Coca-Cola Cup at Portman Road, but it was not the celebration that caused his discomfort.

His first match since the completion of a £200,000 move from Tottenham Hotspur. a 1-0 defeat of Gillingham, of the second division, lasted only 35 minutes after he received a kick on the temple from Steve Butler which produced a wound requiring seven stitches.

George Burley, the Ipswich manager, said: "We decided to put Jason in hospital for the night because it would probably have been dangerous to let him drive back home to London. And he's got to be doubtful now for our league game at Tranmere on Saturday. It is a shame but just about par for the course for us this season. Our injury list is well into double figures now." Simon Milton, the Ipswich

midfield player, also joined the growing casualty list with a knee injury that looks likely to keep him out for at least



Southgate writhes in agony after suffering a recurrence of his ankle injury at Selhurst Park on Tuesday

Southgate faces lengthy absence

By Richard Hobson

ASTON VILLA will discover today the full extent of the ankle injury suffered by Gareth Southgate on Tuesday night. The England defender is due to go for an X-ray, but at the very least he will be out for four weeks. After his meteoric rise from being a sound club player to one of the stars of the European championship, his popularity seemingly untain ted by his missed penalty in the semi-final against Germany, it effectively brings down the curtain on an extraordinary year.

Southgate's ankle is severely bruised and, if bone damage is revealed, he will

struggle to recover sufficiently to be considered by Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, for the World Cup qualifying match against Italy at Wembley on February 12.

Southgate, 26, collapsed seven minutes from the end of the Coca-Cola Cup fourth-round defeat against Wimbledon after he attempted to block a shot from Mick Harford. He was taken off on a stretcher and it emerged that he had suffered a recurrence of the problem that surfaced when England played Poland on October 9, forcing him to miss three matches for his club subsequently.

Brian Little, the Villa manager, said: "It is a major

setback for both of us and a big worry for Gareth because he genuinely thought he was over the problem. We are keeping our fingers crossed but he will be a big loss to us

for however long he is out." Villa also have Mark Bosnich, Sasa Curcic and Tonimy Johnson receiving treatment and the form of Paul-McGrath since he left the club for Derby County last month will merely exacerbate the frustrations of supporters who expected their side to build on last season's achievements, when they finished fourth in the FA Carling Premiership and won the Coca-Cola Cup. The England Under-21 player,

Riccardo Scimeca, is likely to

step in for the game against Middlesbrough on Saturday. For Vinnie Jones, the Wimbledon captain. Tuesday was an altogether more pleasur: able experience, ending with him contemplating a return trip to Wembley, where, in 1988, he helped the club to

secure the FA Cup. "It's a nice thought," Jones said. When I went there in the FA Cup it all went so quickly. It would be great to go back and have a day to

Joe Kinnear, the manager, said: "This seems to be our best avenue into Europe. The last time we got beat was back on August 28 when everyone signed our death warrant."

IN BRIEF

Kirchoff to lead an impressive parade

ULRICH KIRCHOFF, of Germany, the Olympic showjumping champion, heads a formidable list of international showjumpers at the 25th Olympia international showjumping championships that take place in the Grand Hall, Olympia, from December 18 to 22 Henry MacArthur

The show looks set for a bumper anniversary as sponsorship has doubled, the BBC is returning to cover the Volvo World Cup showjumping qualifier on Saturday afternoon and the event is heading for a sell-out. With a total prize-fund of E220,000 and a new Masters competition sponsored by Vink on Thursday night, the show had little difficulty in attracting most of Europe's top riders.

Under-achieving

Cricket: England Under-19 beat Islamabad Under-19 by 30 runs to maintain a winning start to their tour of Pakistan yesterday. David Sales was top scorer for England with a fluent 63 as the side was bowled out for 194 in 38.2

The host side did not recover from losing Asif Mehmood to the first ball. edging a swinging ball from Steve Harmison to Andrew Flintoff at slip. Dean Cosker finished with three for 33 as Islamabad made 164 for nine in their 40 overs.

Tests ruled out

Olympic Games: Five Olympic competitors, whose urine samples returned "adverse findings" for anabolic steroids in Atlanta, will not have to undergo new drug tests (John Goodbody writes). The International Olympic Committee has decided the specimens will be used for research and the cases have been closed.

The IOC was not satisfied with the testing procedures at

13. 2 Th 5. 4.

No trading

Cycling: The 11 members of the British Cycling Federa-tion's caretaker management committee have decided to distance themselves from 🎉 any commercial involvement with the federation and its two associated companies. None of the committee will trade with the federation, BCF Promotions Ltd and Manchester Velodrome Limited.

Winning field

Golf: Torn Lehman, the Open champion, and Ernie Els, the World Match Play winner three times, head a formidable field of 12 for the 1996 Million Dollar Challenge that starts in Sun City today. The three other 1996 major winners will be present - Nick Faldo, Masters champion, Steve Jones, the US Open victor, and Mark Brooks, the PGA

GOLF: GALLACHER COMFORTS FELLOW SCOT WHO FAILED TO WIN PLACE ON EUROPEAN TOUR

Card school deals fallen Sherry a bad hand

By JOHN HOPKINS **GOLF CORRESPONDENT**

GORDON SHERRY and Stephen Gallacher, who were two of the brightest hopes in British amateur golf, this morning take the first diverging steps in their careers as professional golfers.

Gallacher. 22, won his card in the European Tour qualifying school, which ended in Spain on Tuesday evening, and thus has the right to play in many of the same events in 1997 as Colin Montgomerie and Ian Woosnam. This is an achievement of some merit, since a recurring pain in his lower back kept him off the golf course for most of 1996. Indeed, it was only a matter of weeks ago that the injury had improved sufficiently for him to hit golf

balls without feeling pain. By contrast, there is little that is

Cambridge University .. 38

Steele-Bodger's XV...... 54

By BARNEY SPENDER

CAMBRIDGE University

conceded eight tries in their

defeat by Steele-Bodger's XV

at Grange Road yesterday, but still took another convincing

step towards their annual

encounter with Oxford, at

Twickenham on December 10.

They showed flair to score five

sweet in the future for Sherry, 22, who failed to get his card by three strokes and whose disappointing performance in Spain was in keeping with a series of misfortunes that befell him throughout 1996. If more is learnt from setbacks than triumphs, then Sherry is already well on his way to achieving the sort of position in golf that his precocious skills once suggested. Unlike most young professionals, he is not short of money. He has an impressive string of sponsors, as well as an attachment to the Loch Lomond golf club, to cushion

his fall from grace. There is no real reason why Sherry should not become a very good professional though, with hindsight, it is now clear that many of his outstanding achievements were realised in a golden spell of just a few months. His immediate plan is to play in the Hong Kong and Mauritius Opens and then

RUGBY UNION: CAMBRIDGE CLOSE TO SETTLING TEAM FOR TWICKENHAM

fly to Arizona to work on his game and have a well-earned rest.

From the moment that he smothered his opening drive in the sixth round on Tuesday, sending it spinning into a wall no more than 150 yards from the tee, Sherry seemed ill at ease. The cheery and confident young man, described by Greg Norman as a breath of fresh air in the professional game during the 1995 Open, was replaced by one whose outlook seemed to be grumpy. Dare one say it, but he bore more similarities to Montgomerie in

his ill humour than to his former self. Next year Sherry will compete mainly on the Challenge Tour, which may give him the chance to learn his craft, to learn how to read greens, how to improve his putting, which was woeful in Spain, to turn a five into a four instead of a six.

"I feel for Gordon," Gallacher said.

was in keeping with the generous and uncomplicated nature of Bernard Gallacher's nephew. Gallacher has certain advantages over his fellow Scot. Less academic

than Sherry, who has a degree in biochemistry, he may be able to leave his golf on the course and not allow it to intrude into his mind at other times. The way he played his best golf in the sixth round, when the pressure was at its greatest and the wind made the first nine holes at San Roque a considerable test, suggests a rosy future.

"He is a superb player. I have played

with many great golfers and Gordon is one of the best." Such a warm tribute

On Tuesday night, Gallacher's cele-brations included champagne provided by James Slattery, a lottery winner and member of his home club. Bathgate. For Gallacher, if not for Sherry, the champagne was justified.

SWIMMING

Henderson secures support of coaches

BRITISH coaches have voted to boycott Bristol City Council. over what they describe as the unfair dismissal of the head coach of the council's training scheme (Craig Lord writes). The vote, by members of the British Swimming Coaches Association (BSCA), sends a clear message to Bristol that, should it refuse an appeal to reinstate Eric Henderson, a former Scotland international who was dismissed last month after an investigation into his behaviour and coaching practices", no qualified swimming coach in Great Britain

will apply for the post. The BSCA decision presents Clive Durran, a former dev-

Amateur Swimming Association (ASA), with a dilemma, Through an agreement between the council and the ASA. Durran has been installed as temporary coach. If he withdraws, he would break that agreement; if he stays; he would be likely to be blacked. by the BSCA.

The Great Britain team for

the European short-course championships next month has been named TEAN: Merc: A Cleyton (City of Leede), M. Foster (Lincoln Pentaque), S. Hendley (City of Bristo), N. Willey (Bernet Coptine), Willson (City of Leeds), R. Maden (Rochdele Aquathears) Warmen: S. Cottings (City of Bradiord), J. Dealdins (City of Coveriny), H. Don-Duncen (Aelten Certrell), J. Ring (Roccurs) of Western Breach (S. Belde McCertell), J. Ring (Roccurs) of Western Breach (S. Belde McCertell), J. Ring

SAILING

Royal Navy to the rescue

By EDWARD GORMAN, SAILING CORRESPONDENT

THE casualty may have been Austrian, but, that apart, it was a very British affair yesterday as a sick crew member on the BT Global Challenge yacht, Save The Children, was evacuated to Montevideo by way of the Royal Navy frigate, HMS Lancaster.

Kurt Kinast, the mate on board Andy Hindley's yacht, had developed a serious kidney infection and it was decided that he should get proper medical attention as soon as possible. Fortunately, the Type 23 frigate, HMS Lancaster, was on hand off the Argentinian coast near Mar del Plata and an unusual

include the sender's name

Leading article, page 23 and address for a reply.

and an easy target for sharp counters.

reflexes are not what they used to be and I took some punches I shouldn't have taken. If it was any worse, I would have been going backwards, but I showed I can go forwards. I need three more fights to get back to where I belong. I think I can put the snap back with

While Hindley put Kinast into an inflatable speedboat launched from the frigate, he was given in return, much to his surprise and delight, a bottle of vintage port from Commander Nick Harland.

> HMS Lancaster. In Hindley's words: "What actually happened was this really big grey ship came belting over the horizon, did a handbrake turn to the right, dropped this really fast boat into the water, grabbed our crew member without a by your leave and legged it. The comander of the really big ship then threw a helicopter

into the air and took loads of secret-type photos of us with exchange took place. BT GLOBAL CHALLENGE LATEST POSITIONS Second leg 18.3Com Rio de Janei 14. Ocean Rover 11. Commercial Union 12. Heath instreed if 🕳 8. Courtaulde int 🐾 *5. Globa

the big ship in the back-ground. Then they ran off." Save The Children was lying sixth yesterday, the same ranking as before the rendezvous with HMS Lancaster. She kept sailing throughout commanding officer on board the transfer, although the crew had to drop the spinnaker for several hours. Hindley has asked for redress to make up for ground lost during the incident, a matter which is being considered by the international jury

The fleet is still tightly bunched and was averaging between seven and eight knots yesterday, running before a northerly breeze. The appointment with Cape Horn is getting closer and the water and air temperature is beginning to drop. The leading boats had about 1,000 miles to go to the Cape, a landmark they can expect to reach in five to six days.

The leader was Concert. which has followed the most westerly or inshore course. However, the rest of the fleet, sailing to the east, had picked in second place is Motorola under Mark Lodge, a crew volunteer in the last race, with Mike Golding's Group 4 third. Then comes the starturn of the leg so far. Time & Tide, up there with the leading bunch in fourth position. For much of the past two days, James Hatfield and his disabled crew have been holding second place and only slipped back marginally yesterday.

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Students of amateurism refreshed players are still vying for tackled like demons. places in the side for Twicken-Some people may be surham, and Russell Earnshaw,

prised that there were nine the No 8, belied the purity of Epruc (English Professional his white boots with a storm-Rugby Union Clubs) players in the Steel-Bodger's XV. but the reason, according to Mickey Steele-Bodger, was simple and refreshed the receding memories of amateurism. I'm not the RFU," he said. "It never occurred to me that they would refuse."

A number of the Cambridge

ing game while Matt Singer and Paul Surridge worked hard at both ends of the field. Nick Walne, on the right wing. linished a game, injury free, for the first time this season. Cambridge got off to the worst possible start, conceding a try from close range to Simpson after four minutes. but Andrew's attempted con-

post, went wide, much to the hilarity of the crowd. The students, however, struck back immediately with Earnshaw putting in a big drive and, from the ruck. Singer crossed for a try. Surridge's conversion put them ahead and they built on their lead with some good counter-attacking. They were awarded a penalty try when the Steele-Bodger's pack splintered on its own line and. when an attempted quick

version, from in front of the

lineout by Alan Buzza went astray. Ryan skated through. The 24-5 scoreline, though. did not do justice to the territorial advantage of Steele-Bodger's XV, for whom Whitford, Buzza and Hopley dropped the ball close to the

line in quick succession. Either side of the interval. they took control. A try from Iain Morrison reduced the deficit on the stroke of the break and straight after Whitford and Davies put them ahead. Andrew's interception helped Stefan Jones, of

ject to my jurisdiction as Coroner, he said.

his habitual team-mates.

From then on it was always a case of catch-up for the students, but Tony Rodgers, their coach, still expressed himself happy with the performance. "We are pretty close to the team that will play at Twickenham," he said. "I would say 12 out of the 15 that started this game will play." The areas under scrutiny appear to be at hooker, where Murphy seems certain to claim his first Blue, scrum half and in the back row.

and in the bath row.

SCORERS: Cambridge University. Thes:
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England), "R Andrew (Newcaste and
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Referee: C White (Goursaler)

BOXING

Ingle urges Graham to retire again

HEROL GRAHAM should give up his plans for a comeback, according to Brendan Ingle, Graham's former trainer, after seeing him against a little-known American, Terry Ford. at Sheffield on Tuesday (Srikumar Sen writes). Ingle, who made Graham

into the most talented boxer

of the Eighties, said: "He

should not be fighting. I get

my living from this game and

my advice to him is to pack it in. He could get hurt."

It was difficult to disagree with Ingle. Graham, now 37. not only did not have the speed and mobility that made him such an effective boxer, but he was hesitant

Naturally, Graham has a brighter picture of his future. He intends to have two or three more contests before challenging for the British championship and then going on to box for European and world titles. He said: "I realise my

the timing."

Threat of levy cut sparks BHB review

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

THE possibility of a 15 million-a-year cut in levy by 1998 added to racing's post-Budget blues yesterday and prompted the British Horseracing Board (BHB) to order a wide-ranging review into the sport's finances

icad an

The damaging reduction in funding, which would further reduce Britain's internationally low levels of prize-money, will take place in 1998 and 1999 if the big bookmakers — Ladbrokes, William Hill and Coral — take advantage of an option to change the way levy on punters, bets is calculated.

A provision in the present five-year levy deal enables the big bookmakers to switch from a company scheme to a shop-based scheme in the final two years of the agreement and that would reduce levy payments by £5 million a year. With the decline in betting turnover having been halted. it could be in the bookmakers interest to make the change.

Chris Bell, managing director of Ladbrokes, said yesterday that other factors notably the fixture list might influence the decision of bookmakers whether or not to take advantage of the levy option. If racing changed the fixture list — which the betting industry considers unsatisfaca deal might be

Racing's financial predicament and the bookmakers' strong hand, combined with

the Budget disappointment,

were the backdrop to a sombre damaging slanging match. meeting of the BHB yesterday. Lord Wakeham, the BHB chairman, and his colleagues agreed to conduct a review

and work out a strategy after wide consultation with those inside and outside of racing. "We will be looking at a whole range of issues including the fixture list and the way prize-money is distributed. We recognise we need to do some hard thinking about future direction, with particular reference to 1998 and beyond,"

> Nap: SIERRA BAY (12.45 Uttoxeter) Next best: Rosencrantz (2.55 Taunton)

Tristram Ricketts, chief execu-

tive of the BHB, said. "The board will look at things in a calm manner and not be bounced into instant reactions. We need to bring other parties with us, both within our immediate constituency and outside it. They include the Levy Board, whose money we are effectively talking about, and the betting industry."

Peter Savill, a leading member of the Racehorse Owners' Association, has been outspoken in his criticism of Wakeham and Ricketts but both are keen to avoid a

"We are not going to get involved in mud slinging if we can avoid it," Ricketts said. Although Savill believes the

BHB should have not ned racing so closely to the cause of the punter and betting industry in the campaign to reduce betting duty, Wakeham is convinced it was naive to believe the Chancellor would have contemplated giving anything to racing without offering something to punters. The BHB chairman and chief executive were warned some weeks ago by Govern-ment officials that an "exceptional case" would have to be made out by racing to obtain a

Successive year: Wakeham said yesterday: The way forward is not to panic. We must have a mature look at the issues and all the options. There will be a major consultation exercise but it will be done calmly and quietly, without fuss. We want a mature reflection of what must be done - we don't want

betting duty cut for the second

Savill and his supporters are urging the BHB to divorce itself from the cause of bookmakers, but Wakeham re-sponded: There is an awareness among bookmakers that a reasonably prosperous racing industry is an essential prerequisite for their success as well. They have got a vested interest in making sure racing is successful."

shooting from the hip.



Armala leads the field in the early stages of the Donegal Handicap Chase, won by Bells Life, at Chepstow yesterday

McCoy rides luck in Chepstow pile-up

By Richard Evans

TONY McCOY survived a nastylooking three-horse pile-up at Chepstow yesterday — and promptly extended his lead in the jockeys' championship.

The omens were not good when the champion jockey was placed on a stretcher and carried from the track after the mélée near the home bend in the 15-runner Independent Insurance Handicap Hurdle. However, within minutes he rose to his feet unharmed before partnering the much-touted Or Royal, a French import trained by

Martin Pipe, to victory in the Tipperary Novices' Chase.

McCoy's good fortune was not shared by the two other jockeys involved in the incident. Richard Johnson, who was on the first horse to be brought down, was bruised and shaken and gave up his other rides, while Robert Bellamy went to hospital for an X-ray to his arm.

Bellamy, rider of Little Gunner, said: "We went down like flies. It happened so quickly and although I quickly rolled up into a ball my arm got kicked, but it could have been a lot

A replay of the incident showed just how locky McCoy was as his horse, Glengarrif Girl, struck out after being brought down and narrowly missed kicking her rider.

Or Royal, a winner on the Flat and over fences and hurdles, cost Challenger Du Luc's owner, David Johnson, £82,000. Despite two sloppy jumps he always had the measure of Super Coin, third in the Arkle Chase last March. However, the most impressive performance of the afternoon belonged to Mighty Moss in the Galway Novices' Hurdle in which he beat some fancied rivals, including another Johnson-Pipe horse, with the minimum of fuss.

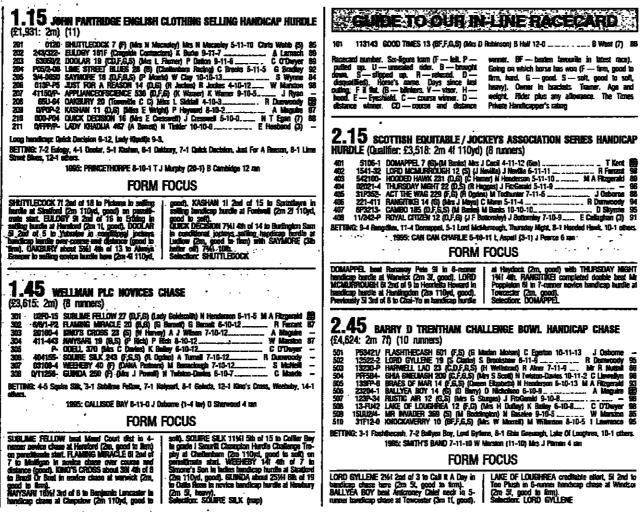
Richard Hughes, the stylish Flat jockey, rode four winners over hurdles in Ireland last week and makes his debut for Pipe this afternoon. He is yet to ride over fences in public but intends to make his chasing debut soon, "when I get a good one".

Kim Bailey was keeping his fingers crossed last night that forecast rain will arrive at Newcastle and enable him to run Alderbrook, last year's Champion Hurdle winner, in the Fighting Fifth on Saturday.

3.15 GEO HODGES & SON HANDICAP HURDLE

(£2,789; 2m) (7 runners)

	THUNDERER
12.45 Senmartino	2.15 Rangitikei
1.15 EULOGY (nac	2.45 Lord Gyllene
· ·	3.15 Master Inde
1.45 Guinde	3.45 Circus Star
Our Newmarket Con	rrespondent: 2.15 Domappel.
GOING: GOOD	TOTE JACKPOT MEETING
12.45 JOHN ST	
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173 STEWES W 174 OA CLIBURNEL	MONETER 3F (G. Miller) B. Lieuwillyo B-10-12 Mr. J.L. Lieuwillyo . NEWS B (T. Fodos) A. Fodos B-18-7 Gary Lyons
115 10F-0 DARROG HE	MENIS 8 (T Fortes) A Fortes 6-18-7 Gary Lyons 98 152 (F) (A Price) R Juckes 6-10-7 W Marston
116 P.P. MESS THE S	BEAT 12 (Bandhor Brigade) S Mallor 4-10-7
ETTERS: 10-11 Summittee, 6-1 thers.	-1 Samenici, 8-1 Bellin Frank, Siece Bay, 10-1 Ienio, 12-1 Star Schooloo,
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wasen. or — ceases services at such allows. College or which haves less won (F — firm, good to soft, heavy). Owner in backets. Teamer. Age and eelgist. Rider plus and yallowance. The Times Private Handbcapper's rating BETTING: 3-1 Casinur Express, 7-2 Cadougoid, 4-1 Sant Cet, 5-1 Master Tribe, 7-1 Mr Buresusral, Dark Nightingale, 8-1 Isalah. 1995: ELFLAA 4-10-12 J Osborne (7-2) N Henderson 10 nan (3-Y-0: £2,453: 2m) (16 runners) BETTING: 3-1 Facilitycash, 7-2 Ballyea Boy, Land Byllena, 8-1 Gibia Gaessegh, Lake Of Loughrea, 10-1 others. 1995: SMOTH'S BAND 7-11-10 W Merston (11-10) Mrs. J Plannin 4 cin FORM FOCUS LORD GYLLENE 2:41 2nd of 3 to Call It A Day in bandicap chase term (2m 5t, good to firm).

LAKE OF LOUGHREA creditable effort, 51 2nd to bandicap chase are (2m 5t, good to firm).

LAKE OF LOUGHREA creditable effort, 51 2nd to foo Plush in 6-tunner handicap chase at Windson (2m 5t, good to firm).

Salaction: LORD GYLLENE

CADOUSOLD 71 and short-head 3rd of 6 to Mouse Bird in handicap hundle at Newton Abbot (2m 11, beavy). MASTER TRIBE best after lest term best fromtager 1916 in 15-curver monce hundle at Newtony (2m 11) by 1 no 15-curver monce hundle at Newtony (2m 11) by 1, good to soil). MR BUREAU-CRAT 225/4 4th of 5 to Tullymmyr Toff in handicap hundle at Haydock (2m 41, good) CENTAUR EX-3.45 LEVY BOARD JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE \$2,453: 2m) (16 runners)

1212 ALWAYS HAPPY 11 (D.F.5) (knight Hawts Partners) M Pice 11-7 R Demondly 90 10 SHEATH KEFAAH 75 (V.D.BF.F) (K Payne) J Jenkins 11-5. J Dishorme 18 184 TARRY 20 (V.D.6) (Mrs. C Lester) A Streeter 11-0. J T Bey 92 ALBAHA 33F (UK Packaging Sapakes Lid) J Banks 10-12. J R Kawanagh BARANION 37F (Mrs. S Next) D Marray Smith 10-12. D Gallagher 4 CIRCUS STAR 34 (BF) (Ringmasters) D Nicholson 10-12. A Maguine 69 CLASSY CHOF 34F (K Surghs) J Winne 10-12. A Maguine 69 CLASSY CHOF 34F (K Surghs) J Winne 10-12. A Maguine 69 CLASSY CHOF 34F (K Surghs) J Winne 10-12. A Maguine 69 CLASSY CHOF 34F (K Surghs) J Winne 10-12. A Maguine 69 CLASSY CHOF 34F (K Surghs) J Winne 10-12. A Maguine 69 NEEDLE MARCH 85F (Clayton Bigley Partners) J J O'Neil 10-12. Sary Lyons SERPHAN HENRY 35F (C Talasson) B Smart 10-12. Levellyn SERPHAN HENRY 35F (C Talasson) B Smart 10-12. J Supple 88 APARTIMBERS ABROAD 31F (P Bercher) K McAuliffe 10-7. J J Murpby GRAND FASCO (Arthracamy Racing) L Grassick 10-7. Mr J Grassick CLOCH DANICCR (C Creek) Mrs. N Miccarley 10-7. S Wymne - RAW DEAL 2005 (T Wallers) 6 Barnet 10-7. R F Arment - 6-4 Ahmeys Happy, 9-4 Carpus Sar, 8-1 Crabble's Pride, 12-1 Topastow, Tarn, 20-1 Albaha, Needle BETTIMIS: 6-4 Always Happy, 9-4 Cacus Star, 8-1 Crabble's Pride, 12-1 Topaglow, Tany, 20-1 Albaha, Needle Match, 25-1 others. 1995: PROPHETS HONOUR 3-10-12 M Faster (9-4) P Hastern 15 ray FORM FOCUS ALWAYS MAPPY 15: 2nd of 7 to Noble Lord in novice baselle at Cheffenham (2m 110yd. good) with TDPASLIVM (2b) bette of) 5%i 4th. SHEATH REFAM beat Ben Bowden 3 in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) SHEATH REFAM beat Ben Bowden 3 in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) to fam) on penuting start. TARRY 12%i 4th of 9 to Bassenhally in novice Selection: CIRCUS STAR 4ki 4th of 9 to Bassenhally in novice Start 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 5%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: CIRCUS STAR 6%in of 13 to Kerawi in novice burdle at Wesbury (2m 110yd. good) Selection: C

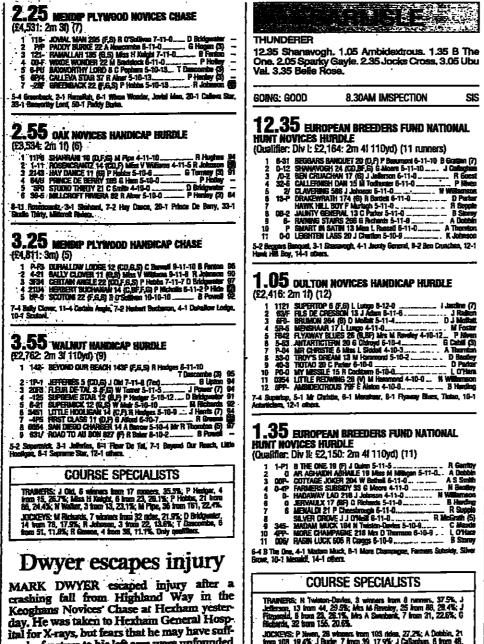
1.35 (2m 4f 110yd hdie) 7, Kinga Minstral (J Burke, 11-1), 2, Dashmar (20-1), 3, Clever Boy (5-2) Lifebuy 2-1 fax, 7 ran NR The Ned Wattz 6f, nr. D Lamb Tote: £25.30; £7.80, £10.50 DF: £38.40 CSF: £144.97. Tricast, £657.76

Tricast. £667.76
2.05 (2m 110yd ch) 1. Elliott's Wish (N WRiamson, 16-1); 2. Uk Hygiene (4-1); 3. Crockalawn (50-1) Golden Hello 7-4 tav. 14 ran MR: Anstodermus. 16, 21/1 J Johnson Tote £11 00. £2 00, £1 60. £13.50 DF £23.30 Trio £100.20. CSF £74.49

THUNDERER
1.25 Secret Spring, 1.55 in Calcots, 2.25 Gree
back. 2.55 Rosencrantz. 3.25 Bally Clover. 3.5 Jefferies.
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.25 SECRET SPRING:
Our Newmarket Correspondent:
o 1.55 DARK TRUFFLE (nap).
GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN PLACES)
4.00
1.23 BEECH NÓVICES MURDLE (C3.566: 2m 10 (14 numers)
1 2-1 SECRET SPARS 12 (6) P Hudger 4-11-6
2 FF2- ANTIGUA'S THEASURE 218P A Barow 7-11-0
Mr R Thomas (5) = 3 02-4 COUNTRY TABOLIN 9 R Hodges 4-11-0 J Heads (7)
4 G-G FAIR HALE 19 B Front 5-11-9 8 Powel
5 0 PROME LAD 43 W Tener 4-11-0 J Power (7) 6 0 LANDLORD 77 Mrs J Hawkins 4-11-0 D Watch (5)
 ACCORD LINE DO AGE BY Terror A.11_0 W McForland
9 RACING HAWK 84F (V) M Sanatas 4-11-0 P Holley
10 RODEFECK HUDSON 90F J Tolen 4-11-8
12 -640 RDC AGE 23 6 Davies 5-10-9
13 ZS4P SHARP SIVER 11 P Nedoc 4-10-9 P Hide 14 2- SPARKING SUCK 201 O Storocol 4-18-9 JA McCarby
2-1 Secret Spring, 3-1 Out Do A Promise, 7-2 Sparking Book, 10-1 Count Targots, 12-1 Redentet Hedson, Yet Agens, 14-1 sphers.
1.55 MAPLE HOVERE HOVICES SELLING HURDLE
(£1,995; 2m 1f) (14)
1 1 5700E ISLAND 23 (D.S) P Hooks 11-3
2 O APPEAL REARD 22 D Burchell 10-10
4 FWAR SOLD 17F K Carninghes-Brown 10-10 8 Ferrison
5 HAYLING BILLY SOF P Hedger 10-10 M. Clinter (7) 6 68 IN CHROTS 12 A State 10-10 F Journal 8
7 G RED TIME 42 M Sanders 10-10. P Holley 9 G GAMARIA STANG 5 W Tomor 10-10. N Williamson (7) 8
9 S. RI OSSENIA DEARRE 23 6th R Forst 18-5
10 3 DARK TRAFFLE 10 Mrs J Cord Till 6
11 MARTSARW 33F D Elseuth 10-5 A Process
13 TREME ARENA SSF to Pope 10-5 R Haghes 14 SP TREMENA 11 R September 18-5 L Harvey
11-4 Dark Troffle, 7-2 Stone Island, 5-1 January Jenny, 7-1 in Caboots, 8- Colebrook Willie, 16-1 Sustana Song, Hantyanu, 14-7 offens
BACE IN A
TARA PRA JEGONANIES
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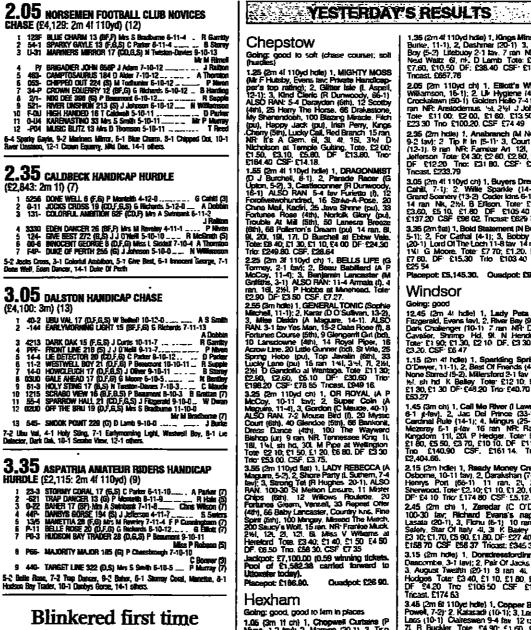
FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168



ered a fracture to his left arm were unfounded

as the examination revealed no break.

JOCKE'S: P Jimen, 28 winners from 113 rides, 27.2%; A Dobbin, 21 from 103, 19.4%; J Bude, 7 from 39, 17.9%; J Callaghan, 8 from 48, 18.7%; R Gress, 7 from 52, 13.5%; B Storey, 21 from 162, 13.0%.



Ging: good to soft (chase course); soli (huddes)

1.25 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, MiGHTY MOSS (Mr F Hutely, Evens lav. Private Handlospper's top rating); 2. Giliter lake (I. Aspell, 12-1); 3, Kind Cleric (R Durwoody, 66-1) ALSO Part Party The Horse, 66 Drakestone, My Shenendoeh, 100 Blazong Miracle, Frich (pu), Happy, Jack (pu), Irish Perry, Kings Cheny (Shi), Lucky Call, Red Branch 15 fan, NR 16 A Gem. 6l, 31, 41, 15, 39-1 D Nicholson at Temple Guiling, Tote, 22 (0; ct 50, ct 30, ct 50, ct 50, ct 30, ct 50, ct 30, ct 50, ct 50, ct 30, ct 50, ct 50, ct 50, ct 30, ct 50, ct 5 2.35 (2m indie) 1, Anabranch (M Newton, 9.2 tsv); 2 Tip it in [5-1]; 3, Court Joker (12-1); 8 ran MF, Familiar An 121, 14 J Jefferson Tote: 54 30; 52 60, 52 80, 52 40, DF \$12.20 Trice: \$13.80, CSF; \$26.28 Tricest, \$223.79 Incast, £233,79
3.05 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Buyers Draem (G Cahil, 7-1): 2. While Spankle (14-1), 3. Grand Scanery (13-2) Cader lons 6-1 ji-lav 14 ran Nic, 2%, 8 Ellson, Tote: £10,20, £3.60, £5.10, £1.80 DF £105.40 Too £137.20 CSF £98.02 Tricast: £629.76 3.35 (2m fail) 1, Bold Statement IN Bertley, 5-11; 2, For Cathal (4-1); 3, Bobby Gran (20-1) Lord Off The Lord 11-8 fail 4 fara 4, 1¼ I G Moore, Tote: £7.70; £1.20, £1.30, £7.60, DF £15.30 Trio £103.40 CSF £25.54 Windsor Going: good 12.45 (2m 4) hdie) 1, Lady Peta (M A Fizgerald, Evens lav), 2, Piver Bay (9-2); 3, Dark Chollenger (10-1) 7 ran MF. Danies Cavalier, Smiring Hd. 98, N Henderson Totar £1 90; £1 30, £2 10 DF, £3 30 Tho £3.20 CSF £6 47 1.15 (2m 4) holle) 1, Spankling Spring (C O'Dwyer, 11-1), 2, Best O'l Friends (4-1), 3, None Surred (5-2), Millersford 2-1 fav 9 ran M, sh hd K Balley Tote: £12 10, £4 00, £130, £130 OF: £48,20 Trio £40,70 CSF £53,27 E1 30, E1 30 OF- C48 20 Trio: £40,70 CSF E53.27

1.45 (3m ch) 1, Call Me River (I Lawrence, 6-1 g-fgv), 2, Jac: Del Prince (33-1); 3, Cardnal Rule (14-1); 4, Minguy, (25-1) La Mezeray 6-1 g-fgv, 16 ran NR: Ragged Kngdom 111, 20; 9 Hedger, Tote: £6 10; £1 80, £5 50, £3 70, £10 10, DF E1 12.90 Trio: £1 40, 90 CSF, £161 14. Tricast £2,404.86.

2.15 (2m hder 1, Raady Money Creak (J Osborne, 10-11 tav), 2, Darakshan (7-2); 3, Henrys Pott (66-1) 1ran, 21, 21 O Sherwood, 106-11 tav), 2, Drakshan (7-2); 3, Henrys Pott (66-1) 20; 10 (5 120, 69 00 DF: £4 10 Trio: £174 80 CSF £5.12.

2.45 (2m tn) 1, Zeredar (C O'Dwyer, 100-30 fav, Richard Evanss; nap), 2, Lasata (20-1), 3, Fichu (6-1), 10 ran NR: Salev, Star Of Italy 4, 3 K Baley, Tote, E3 10; £1,70,£5 90,£1 80, DF: £27 40 Trio £158 70 CSF £56 37 Tricast: £346 38

3.15 (2m hde), 1, Doradresstordinner (7 Dascombe, 3-1 lav); 2, Pair Of Jacks (9-2), 3, August Tweith; (20-1) 9 ran 44, ns. R Hodges Tote: £3 40,£1 10,£1 80,£3 70 DF: £4 20 Trio: £106 50 CSF £14 81 Tricast. £174 63 Tote 52 10, £1 50, £1 20, £5 80. DF £3 30
Tite £3 30. CSF, £3 75.
3.55 (2m 110yd flet) 1. LADY REBECCA (A
Magure, 5-2), 2. Shore Party (£ Sutrem, 7-4
tav); 2. Strong Tet (R Hughes 20-1); ALSO
RAN, 100-30 St Methon Lesure, 11 Misser
Crips (6th), 12 Willows, Phoulette, 20
Fortunes Green, veneal, 33 Repeat Orier
(4th), 56 Bably (zeneaser, Country kns. Fine
Speri (5th), 100 Minger, Missed The March,
200 Saucy o Wolf, 15 ran, NR Francie Muck,
244, 124, 21, 121, 61 Miss V Williams at
Herietted Tose, £3 40, £1 40, £1 5, £4 50
DF, £6.50 Tino, £58 30, CSF, £7 35
Jackpott, £7, 100.00 (0.56 withining tickets,
Pool of £1, 562,38 carried toward to
Uttoxeler today),
Placepott £186,90. Ouradpott £26 90. Hexham 10cast, £174 63 3.45 (2m 66 110)/c holle) 1, Copper Boy (8 Powel, 7-2) 2, Katasadi (10-1); 3, Lassone Lass (10-1) Callessian 9-4 fav 12 tan. 6; 71 R Buckler Tote £4 90; £1.60, £3.00, £3.50. DF £35.90 Tno £160.80 CSF £37.53 Tnoash £305.05 Blinkered first time

CARLISLE 1 05 Brumon, Little Redwing, TAUNTON: 1 25 Record
Hawk, 1,55 Blossom Deane, 3,55 Supreme Star. UTTOXETER:
3,45 Sheath Kelash, Tarry. Placepot: \$20.80. Quadpot: \$8.90.

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Another beef in the war against steroids

An exercise-related career can often sound irresistible to a young man or woman eager to cash in on a dedication to physical fitness and healthy living. Here, though, is one offer that is more sad than exciting and enough to make every true sports enthusiast wince.

It appeared in The Guardian last week; a job advertisement placed by the Harrow and Hillingdon Healthcare NHS Trust. It was for a "Steroid Worker". Harrow Community Drug and Alcohol service is seeking a skilled worker "to provide information and advice to people using, or contemplating using, steroids. Strategies will include the provision of sterile needles/syringes to injecting steroid users and work with local gyms. Applicants, who should be qualified in counselling, psychology or social work, are advised that "experience of bodybuilding would he an advantage

"If you can't beat 'em, at least give 'em clean needles," seems to be the philosophy here; and the message that is sent out to thousands of young sportsmen is that steroid use is an everyday ingredient of sporting life.

It is a message of despair, but, in the world of sport and drugs, there is much despair. There is despair at the grassroots level of the gymnasium. and there is despair at the very pinnacle of sport.

At the weekend, it was reported

probable that next Monday

morning, when the moment of

truth arrives, the rackets will not be ritually burnt or hurled

into the nearest lake, but

stashed neatly in the cupboard just in case Edberg, one of the

great champions of the game,

needs a little exercise a month

Whether Edberg, the double

Wimbledon champion, can shuffle off in his carpet slippers with one final memory tucked into his dressing-gown

pocket, will be decided in

Malmö this weekend, when

Sweden take on a fitfully

talented France team in an

unlikely final of the Davis

apt conclusion to Edberg's

best. Now. perhaps, it is the turn of the Davis Cup, with its

quaint format, to lift him to

or two from now.



that Dean Capobianco, an Australia sprinter, who is facing a four-year ban after a positive test for anabolic steroids, is fighting the case with an ingenious defence. He is claiming that the eating of meat from cows that may have been beefed up using anabolic agents can cause an otherwise innocent athlete to test positive for performance enhancing drugs. If the defence works, we shall no doubt hear of a lot more sportsmen loading up on beef and bravely ignoring the dangers of CJD.

Capobianco said that his evidence has been served on the International Amateur Athletic Federation. "I can imagine they are in a panic about the ramifications for their whole drugstesting programme," he said.

"What drugs-testing programme?" some might ask. Yesterday Prince Alexandre de Merode, the medical chief of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), announced that 16

athletes returned suspicious urine samples at the Olympic Games in Atlanta this year. although only two were banned. "Juridicial grounds" and "technical doubts" saved the others.

The previous time the Olympics were in the United States, in Los Angeles in 1984, documents relating to nine positive drug tests at the Games were, according to IOC officials, inadvertently shredded by a hotel cleaner.

There is, sadly, no lack of

evidence of the widespread

abuse of drugs in sport at all

levels. In the aftermath of Ben Johnson's disqualification after winning the 100 metres at the 1988 Games, inquiries were launched in Canada and Australia and concluded that drug abuse was common in top-class sport and that anabolic steroid use has spread into recreational sport and exercise. Users can

now be found in large numbers

among semi-elite sportsmen and

women, and health and fitness

enthusiasts - none of whom are

subjected to testing.

The line between drugs in sport and drugs in society is becoming increasingly blurred, and children as young as 12 are getting hold of steroids in a bid to build bodies like their muscle-bound role models. A survey last year estimated that

100,000 Britons under the age of 16

SPEROD WEEKER PART THE

Vacancy at Harrow and Hillingdon

are using anabolic steroids. Schemes like the one advertised are now not uncommon, and follow evidence that an increasing number of syringe exchange schemes set up for drug users have noticed that anabolic steroid users are using their services. Such centres have witnessed the sight of apparently super-fit young sports-men lining up alongside malnour-ished drug addicts to collect their hand-out of clean needles. A study in 1991 found that 5 per cent of all clients at 21 syringe exchanges in England and Wales were steroid users.

Dr Huw Perry, a bodybuilder who has studied steroid abuse for the West Glamorgan Health Authority. has said that 40 per cent of addicts at South Wales needle exchanges are

without a regular supply of the drugs and the law gives the pushers far too easy a ride. The penalty for supplying steroids has been increased this year to a maximum of five years' imprisonment and an unlimited fine.

You can, however, turn up at the gym with a sports bag stuffed full of them, but, unless it can be proved that you are selling them, the law cannot touch you - madness! Anyone who thinks that the

use of such drugs is simply a

short cut to looking strong and performing like a champion should be warned - steroids can kill. Birgid Dressel, a West German heptathlete who used drugs includ-ing steroids, was fourth at the European championships in 1986. She was dead before the year was out with a collapsed immune system. Lyle Alzado, an American footballer. died in 1992 from brain cancer that he said was brought on by years of steroid abuse. Last year James Kevill. a London bodybuilder, became so crazed after taking a huge dose of anabolic steroids that he ran head-

first into a wall and died.

Meanwhile the kids from the gyms are still queueing up for their sterile needles and in Harrow they are still looking for a "Steroid Worker." It sounds like hard work to me.

JOHN BRYANT

BLAKE SELL/REVIERS

On the edge ' of extinction

My Darling, My Darling, My Life and My Bride. Radio 4. 2.00pm. Alleen la Tourette's play about the final days of Edgar Allan Poe, over which a cloud of mystery still hangs, assumes too great a knowledge on our part of the writer/poet's deeply troubled life. For maximum satisfaction and comprehension, I recommend that you should list read one of the best biographies of Poe by David Sinclair, who rightly says of Poe that the nightmares in his fiction are merely vehicles for a four round the farthest presses of our own psyches. Today's planting the farthest presses of our own psyches. journey into the farthest recesses of our own psyches. Today's play combines speculative interior monologue with adequately imagined dialogue. As Poe, James Aubrey constantly hints at impending extinction. He is a fine reader of Poe's verse, particularly The Raven.

Opera Matinée: Peter Grimes. Radio 3. 1.00pm.

Britten's Peter Grimes was born lustily in 1945. Even to those critics Britten's Peter Grimes was born lustily in 1945. Even to those critics who had reservations about it at the time, it was clear that it was an event with few precedents in British opera history. As to whether it is superior or inferior to Death in Venice or Billy Budd, the jury is stilly out. To help them make up their minds, perhaps they should return to court this afternoon and tune in to this splendid new recording of Peter Grimes on the Chandos label. Philip Langridge is the hounded fisherman — a tremendous performance almost as good as that of Peter Pears — and Janice Watson is the faithful Ellen Orford. Indoor Symphony Chorus and City of London Sinfonia are conducted by Richard Hickox.

Peter Davalle

> WORLD SERVICE RADIO 1

7.00mm Chris Evans 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Liss l'Anson 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier, includes at 5.30-5.45 Newsbest 7.00 Evening Session, with Jo Writey and Steve Lamaco 9.00 Soundbite with Denny Kelly 10.00 Mark Raddillie, live from Manchester 12.00 Mark Angel Che Warnsh Mary Anne Hobbs 4.00em Citye Warren

8.00mm Mertin Keirier 7.30 Wales Lip to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmiy Young 1.30mm Delole Thrower 3.00 Ed Stewent 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 My Marriny and Me. A sil-com by Celliny MacPhail. With Ellien McCellum, Jelie D'Arcy and Keile-Donnelly 7.30 David Allen 8.00 Paul Jones 9.45 Gospel Train, with Carol Pembérton 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05mm Steve Medden 3.00 Alex Lester Incl Peuse for Thought lex Lester, Incl Pause for Thought RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00mm Morning Reports, incl at 5.45. Wales Up to Money 6.00 The Breeldast Programme, Incl at 6.55, 7.55 racing preview 8.35 The Magazine, with Diame. Medill 12.00 Middey with Male, incl at 12.35pms Moneyorhock 2.05 fluscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide, incl at 5.45 Entertainment News 7.00 News Edite, incl at 7.20 Sports Buildeth 7.35 On the Line 8.05 Inside Edge 9.05 SportsAmerica 9.36 Sportstop 10.05 News Talk, Paul Reynolds 11.00 Night. Extre, with Valerie Senderson 12.05mm After Hours — Early Call, with Vincent Henns 2.06 Up All Night, with Phod Sharp

TALK RADIO

5.00em Early Breakdast 7.00 Paul Ross 9.00 Scoti Chisholm 12.00 Anna Res-burn 2.00pea Torring Boyd 4.00 Drivetime, with Peter Deskiy 7.00 Moz-Des's Sportszone 10.00 James Whele

All times in GNTT. News on the hour.
5.30am Europe Today 6.30 Europe
Today 7.15 Off the Shelf 7.30 Network
UK 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 Composer,
of the Month 8.55 Health Matters 8.05
World Business Report 9.15. Sports
International 9.45 Sport 10.30 BBC
English 10.45 Off the Shelf. 11.30
Metidian On Screen 12.05pm World
Business Report 12.15 Britain Today
12.30 Assignment 2.05 Outlook 2.36
Multirack 3.05 Sport 3.15 Jazz Now and
Therr 3.30 Network UK 4.15 World
Today 4.30 BBC English 4.45 Britain
Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45
Sport 6.30 Assignment 7.01 Outlook Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sport 6.30 Assignment 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Words of Feith 7.30 John Peel 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Eritain Today 9.30 Meridian Books 10.30 World Today 10.45 Sport 11.10 Take Rivel 11.15 Record Progress 11.30 The Ed Stewart Show 12.30 am Good Books 12.45 Britain Today 1.30 Outlook 1.35 Words of Feith 2.30 Pick of the World 3.15 Sport 3.30 Focus on Feith 4.30 Europe Today

CLASSIC FM 4.00em Mark Griffiths 6.00 Miles Read 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Concerto. Giulleni (Gui-Samois Sculpell Colicean Cesses (Carlos States Concerto in A major, Op 30) 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Newsnight 6.30 Sonata Beethoven (Horn Sonata In F. Op 17) 7.00 Travel Guide 8.00 Concert. Schumann (New England Triptych); Copland (Clarinat Concerto); Nes (Time Places in New England): Murch Schaler

VIRGIN RADIO



Edberg intends to slip quietly into the shadows after his retirement this weekend

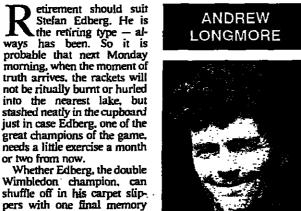
ANDREW LONGMORE

in the tramlines

Davis Cup provides fitting finale

Edberg looking

forward to life



"I feel very relaxed about it," Edberg said, "It's a team effort, we support each other, and that makes it easier. It's a Cup. Victory would provide an great opportunity for me to finish my career playing in a distinguished career. His Davis Cup final. To win would opening singles match will be be fantastic. If we lose, it is still his liftieth in the cup, and a a nice way to go out. It's not the record of won 35, lost 14, end of the world." stands comparison with the

Nor will retirement be the end of Edberg's world in the way that it was for Bjorn Borg and Mats Wilander, his compatriots. There will be no

comebacks. though, at 30, he has plenty of time for them. "Unthinkable," he said. "I know that coming back on the tour – playing week in, week out - that time is over. If I continued to play. I could probably still win a tournament, maybe keep playing for another two or three years. I am still fit enough, but I couldn't win a grand slam [tournament - he won six].

Once that chance is gone, it's

better to leave the tennis at

home and forget about it."
It helps that Edberg has known perfection and cannot kid himself, as so many champions have done, that next best good enough. So finely balanced was Edberg's game, next best tended to be awful, anyway: but that has not made the decline any less painful to watch or to endure. Bit by bit, starting with that impossibly athletic service, the game that touched genius in a straightsets defeat of Jim Courier in the 1991 final of the US Open,

and earned \$20 million (about £13 million) in prize-money, disintegrated until even the volley, the full stop in most of Edberg's on-court conversations, finally stuttered to a halt. In Dubai, earlier this year, Edberg contemplated abandoning his farewell tour and giving up right there. "It's the worst thing when

you've been at the too and you feel yourself slipping." he said. It comes to a point when things you could have done in your sleep, you can't do anymore. Shots which are not possible to miss, you start

Like the one that cost him the third set against Mikael Tillstrom on a miserable evening at Wimbledon. "A simple forehand volley," he said. "I was 4-2 up in the tie-break and missed it by an inch. It's what happens when you get older.

Edberg lost and the authorities at Wimbledon were rightly criticised for treating him -one of their great champions
— so shabbily. Edberg shrugs
at the misfortune. "I had one bad day through that period and it happened to be that

one," he said. Edberg claims to be looking forward to retirement, but only when the new year comes and the Australian Open signals the start of the new season will life without tennis truly hit home, probably the same time

you lose a step and a step is that the tennis public will be wondering why everyone plays the same way these days. Sadly, Edberg has seen no successors willing to pound his tip-toed beat to the net.

"Serve and voiley is too predictable now unless you do to perfection," he said. "Guys just stand in with their big rackets and take the ball on the rise. The ball is coming back so much quicker.

Sooner or later I will pick up my rackets again, because you can still play, it's great exercise; but, instead of playing twice a day every day.

maybe it will be three times a week. If I feel like it, I might play some exhibitions. I just hope that when it [retirement] hits me, I will be busy enough thinking about other things." He has set up a tennis

foundation to help young children in Sweden and will do some public relations work for Adidas, his long-time sponsor. He will still be based in London with his wife Annette, and daughter, Emilie, and has bought a farm near his parents' home in southern Sweden. It does not

Broxbourne suffer reversal of fortune

SQUASH

from the sublime to the ridicolous has taken just two weeks (Colin McQuillan writes). First, a fortnight ago, the National Squash League club put Surbiton, the fully professional members of the Super Squash League, out of the inter-league SSL Cup: this week, the memory of that performance was forgotten as Broxbourne were deprived of a vital win in their own competition by a double dis-qualification in their match against Phillips Windows

FOR Broxbourne, moving

Chichester. Indeed, even their victory at Surbiton, against a threestrong line-up including the England internationals, Simon Parke and Tony Hands. has caused problems. Peter Gunter, the Broxbourne captain, said of the forthcoming quarter-final against Lingfield on December 16: "It is a home tie and we have Peter Marshall, the former world No 2, perhaps returning by then

from his chronic fatigue syndrome problems, but we operate on tight budgets and this means we have to fund another match we did not calculate for.

Broxbourne, who had led Group B of the National League, fell to a 2-3 defeat at Chichester after the local match refereeing co-ordinator, Devon Kandiah, awarded the second-string rubber to the home team when a loose drive from Julian Wellings struck Nathan Dugan, of Chichester, in the eye, and then disqualified Stuart Cowie for returning late to court for the fifth game of his fourth-string rubber against Lee Drew.

With Tim Garner losing at first string to Danny Meddings and Peter Genever faring similarly against Rod-ney Durbach at third string, the match was level at 2-2 before Linda Charman clinched a home win by beating Stephanie Brind 3-0 in the women's fifth-string match.

and the second of the second o

jetr to my jurisdiction as

(c) Pronounced as picnic. Short and squat in build, with small hands and feet, short limbs and neck, a round face, and domed abdomen. "I see he has the true pyknic build," you remark to Alexandra, who is proudly displaying her new haby round the office. "Strange. I thought that was always inherited. Good Heavens, I don't suppose . . . "

(c) A lendency to remember a task or duty that we have not yet leted, or even got around to. This is a term from the magic land of psychology, and describes a condition to which all of us are, to varying degrees, prone. **EMUNCTORY**

(c) Of nose blowing. Or any organ of the body that disposes of waste products. "Our speaker at the Institution tonight is well-known to all of us. His emunctory achievements are an object lesson for all of us." LIMPOPO (b) The avocado. Named for a river, otherwise known as the

Crocodile River, in southern Africa. This usage derives from the writings of Kipling, whose phrase the great, grey, green, greasy Limpopo" is exactly indicative of the nature of the fruit. The avocado had been introduced to London when Kipling was writing his Jungle Book.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE 1 Bxf7+! Qxf7 (1 ... Kxf7 2 Qxh7+ wins the black queen and) ... Rxf72 Qg5+ wins material) 2 Rxd8 Rxd8 3 Qg5+ and wins

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6.00am Russ n. Jono's Breaklast Experience 10,09 Graham Dene 1.00pm Jeremy Clerk 4.00 Nicky Home 7.00 Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin (AM) 10.00 Mark Forest 2

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor, Includes Beethoven (Plano Concerto

Sings NGE Collection, with Peter Hobday, Includes Vaughan Williams (Five Variants of Dives and Lazarus), Tallis (Spern in Alturn); Haydin (Symphony No 101 in D)

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Mair Nicolson Includes Possi

Possini (Overture: The Italian Girl in Algiers); Haydri (Pland Sonata in G, HXVI 40); Hahn (Trois Rondels: La Jour);

(Trois Rondels: Le Jour);
Dvořák (Symphony No 7 in D
minor); Palia (El Arnor Brujo)
Composers of the Weelc
American Symphoniats.
Copland (Symphony No 2, A
Short Symphony; William
Schuman (Symphony No 10,
American Musie) 1.00pm News; Opera Matinda.

See Choice

3.45 The Hebrides Ensemble.
Shostekovich (Piano Quintet,
Op 57, Ida Levin and
Catherine Manson, violna,
Jucith Busbridge, viola,
Millem Conserver, cells, Refer

Judith Busbridge, viole, William Coriway, cello, Peter Evens, piano (r)

4.25 The BBC Orchestras, BBC National Orchestra of Wales under Paul Hoskins, Jane Attins, viola, Hindemäth (Der Schwanendraher)

5.00 The Music Macchine, Torrany Peterson continues bid.

Pearson continues his examination of dance by looking at lezz and tap 5.15 in Tune, with Gerarit Lewis including Matirias (A Dance Overture); Howells (King David); Britten (A Ceremony

of Carols); Mozart (Obo Odariet in F, K370) Philhermonic under Yan Pascal Torteller, Bersoz (Overture Waverley); Dub

enfoz (ia Mort de the 1942 publication of his study of American literature On Native Ground, the writer and critic Alfred Kezin has Tonight he discusses his

work-in-progress God and the American Writer Ravel Concertos, Plano Concerto in G. Pascal Roge, Montreal Symphony Orchestra under Charles Dutoit

10.00 Music Restored, Recorded I Music Restored, Hecoroeu last month at the Royal Academy of Music, London, to mark the 450th emiversary of the death of Martin Luther. of the death of Martin Luther, Organist Graham Barber periorms chorales from Bach's Clavier-Ubung III and settings of En' Feste Burg let Unser Gott by Pachethel, Bustahude and Hantf 11.30 Composers of the Week Bartok and Kodsily (r) 12.20am Jazz Notes Harry "Sweets" Edison has pleyed with Count Baste, Frank Sinstra, et Jazz et the Philitermonic and with his own groups. Tonight he talks

own groups. Tonight he talks about formpets and jazz. 1.00am Through the Night.

increasingly without demands or identifying a cause, is a new kind of terrorism — mational and indiscriminate.

8.45 The New Recruit: Estate Agenta, Old and new hards Agenta, Old and new hards compare notes (4/4) 9.00 Does He Take Sugar? 9.30 Kaleldoscope (/) 9.59

9.30 Katetoscope (/) Many
Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.35 Budget Statement by the
Liberal Democrats
10.45 Book at Bedtimer Archy
and Mehitabel, by Don
Marchin (J.R.)

5.55am Shipping (LW) 8.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 8.30 Today 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Meze, 6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Hair in the Gate. Cive
Coleman's connecty series sel
in arts broadcasting. A
mysteriously beautiful woman
appears to Brian Sheena
investigates firancial
irregularities on sci-fi series.
What is the bizarre
connection? (3/6)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Radio Lives. Richard Coles
back on the fire and career of
Russell Harty (5/6)

old?

with Michael Buerk
10.00 News; Wonderland Girls
(FM). New comedy by
Mediante Carey that iffs the
iid on the life assurance
business, With Flora Bell,
Wench Search and Tom Wendy Seager and Tom Smith (1/4) 10.00 Daily Service (LW) Russell Harty (5/6).

8.00 Analysis: Climate of Feer.
Terrorism strices at targets around the world, but 10.15 On This Day (LW) 10.30 Woman's Hour, with Jenni

11.30 From Our Own 11.30 From Our Own
Correspondent
12.00 News; You and Yours
12.25pm Foul Play. Chairman
Simon Breit challanges crime
witers H.R.F. Keeting and
P.D. James to solve a
mystery. With Lee Simpson
and Maria McErlane 12.55.
Weether

1.00 The World at One, with Nick

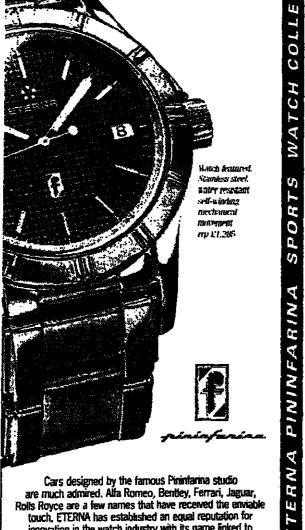
Clarke
1.46-The Archers 1.55 Shipping
2.00 News; My Durling, My
Derling, My Life and My
Bride. See Choice
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift.
Sirron Hopgert continues his
political notice's guide to
personality types commonly
icund among our MPs
4.00 News 4.05 Kalektoscope.
Paul Allen retrieves here new

Paul Alien reviews two new Stalearness and the Passesses reviews unu rear Spatial upon Avon: Much Ada about Nothing and Henry

4.45 Sport Story: The Non Traditional Wife, by Lake Rolls, Peacl by Silv Grewel 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping 5.66

and Mehitabet, by Don Marquis (4/8) Marquis (4/8) by Craig Warner, Frankic after the cleath of Louis XV. Beaumarchaia nonatheless incle himself distracted by a millional (4/8) Weather
12.30 The Late Book: Carol, ByPatricia Highsmith (4/12)
12.48 Shipping
1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUDE RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 99.2 RADIO 2. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.8. LW 198. M 720. TM 100-102. FM 100-103. 1099. TM 100-103. MM 1053. 1099. TM 1053. MM 1053. 1099. TM 1053. FM 1053. TM 1053. MM 1053. MM 1053. 1099. TM 1053. SM 1099. TM 1053. MM 1



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Dated detectives, traded titles, a kooky cook

n mourning for the two fat ladies. I suddenly saw a new acareer opportunity for them last night. In fact it brightened a dull evening. A detective series! It's obvious! Now that it's such a big. big effort for John Thaw and Kevin Whately to turn out for Inspector Morse (ITV), why doesn't murderriddled Oxford call up those game girls with the motorbike and sidecar instead? Check the list of Inspector Morse's distinctions. and Jennifer and Clarissa match them all. They are fond of quotation; they have a snobbish de-meanour; and they drive an interesting vehicle. It's a wonder nobody thought of it before.

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Acres 1974

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nobody thought of it before. suspicion instantly thrown on . The trouble with the classic Brooks, a nasty former college Morse (and last night's was a classic in all the worst senses) is that it's set in the present day. This Oxford has no incident rooms; its nick is just a quiet office for the minutes. But on the level of Chief inspector, plus a quiet office character assumptions it was dire. for Morse and Lewis. Suspects are If a young woman is attractive and

without a tape recorder, while a soggy copy of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act floats past unregarded. Set Morse in the 1950s, and nobody would mind. But now that Prime Suspect has equipped the average viewer with enough procedural expertise to run his own murder inquiry, Inspector Morse just looks silly. So, for all the impact on realism it would have, our heroes might just as well surrender their badges to the two fat ladies at once.

The story last night - The Daughters of Cain - was humdrum. Oxford don found dead; servant; waters muddled by women murdering Brooks with same weapon. As a puzzle, it was OK, if overstretched by about 30

lives in London, she is a prostitute. If a man gets the sack from a college, it's for dealing drugs. If a middle-aged woman teacher removes her cardigan for a teenage thug, he will assist her in murder. In fact, the only believable moment was when Morse ques-tioned Brooks's tearful widow. about her husband's criminality.
"You said nothing while he dealt in drugs," he snarled accusingly, "Because it got you a new kitchen!" At which point she looked around lamely and waved an arm, "Well, the kitchen did need doing."

yer on BBC2, John Alexander's Modern Times film brought an interesting slant. And if you think that sentence is unfinished, you are quite wrong. Alexander's To the Manor Bought may have been ostensibly concerned with the bizarre modern trafficking of baronies, but it was mainly about setting camera triREVIEW

Lynne Truss

pods with one leg shorter than the others. Try an experiment. Hold this newspaper in front of you (a hand at each top corner); then drop your right hand by six inches, and cock your head to one side. That was the interesting slant.

Sometimes documentary-makers hit on the perfect Post-Modern style for a nutsy subject like this, and sometimes they don't. To the Manor Bought stopped just short

ing it - well, literally upside down. Water flowed uphill; chess sets defied gravity, and viewers clutched their chair-arms against the rollercoaster effect. Perhaps the larky angles were to remind us it was all rather funny — with harmless chaps in pullovers seri-ously calling themselves "The Bar-on of Trereragh" — but unfortunately some of us were too busy to laugh, being regularly sick

into a paper bag.

Meanwhile, what is a purchased title really worth? This interesting question was answered in every conceivable way, with lots of digin-the-ribs reminders that most titles were purchased by the trueblues in the first place. Melody, Baroness Urguhart (formerly in showbiz) opined that it would take just three generations for the blue blood to start coursing through her descendants' veins, while her hus-

of showing that the social world had turned upside down by show-people into the system invested aripeople into the system invested aristocratic titles with a new respectability. You've got to admit that's a novel view; or even an interesting slant. In fact, the camera could have cartwheeled at this point, and nobody would have minded.

> ary Rhodes visited North Yorkshire for Open Rhodes (BBC2), and it was worth all the daft preamble with a waxwork Dracula in Whitby to meet the board of the Yorkshire Pudding Appreciation Society, who turned up in a short dapper line like undertakers and measured Gary's puddings with a special ruler. As a form of selfimportance, legitimate membership of the Yorkshire Pudding Appreciation Society certainly beats paying £30,000 for a footling title the Earl of Shrewsbury found at the back of an airing cupboard. The pudding brigade can not only

with gold seals), but they get to eat a lot of yummy cooked batter along life's dreary way. Meanwhile, Gary presented sev-

eral slightly peculiar recipes with his usual emphatic delivery, which involves much exercising of the elbow joints — rather in the manic-puppet manner of George Michael when he used to sing "Wake me up before you go-go". Last night (whenever he could control his wild forearms long enough) Gary made roast cod and Yorkshire pudding; deep-fried black pudding with home-made tomato ketchup: black treacle pudding with liquorice ripple ice-cream. One might criticise the quantity of pudding. but - sorry, hang on, I've just realised why Gary pretended to be related to Dracula: it was his widow's peak! Ho hum, a visual joke that has taken 12 hours to sink in. I can't help wondering, is this a

BBC1 6.000m BUSINESS BREAKFAST (57490) 7.00 BBC BREAKFAST NEWS (1) (34461) 9.00 BREAKFAST NEWS EXTRA (T) 9.20 STYLE CHALLENGE (1016374)

9.45 KILROY (8575848) 10.30 CAN'T COOK, WON'T COOK Ainsley Hantott (10206) 11.00 NEWS (I) REGIONAL NEWS and weather (2351461)

11.05 THE REALLY USEFUL SHOW Consumer magazine (4979480) 1.45 SWILLE'S PEOPLE (6796732) 12.00 NEWS (T) REGIONAL NEWS and weather (4612461)

12,05pm SNOWY RIVER — The McGregor Sége (2373022) 12.50 COUNTRY WALKS TO CURIOUS (17214022)

1.00 NEWS (7) and weather (44848) 1.30 REGIONAL NEWS (14971190) 1.40 NEIGHBOURS (T) (24882190) 2.00 SNOOKER: The UK Champ Quarter-finals (622119)

3.50 DRLLY THE DINOSAUR (1) (5458954) 3.55-Alvin and the Chipmunis () (899022) 4.20 Julia Jelyil and Harriet Hyde: (1) (8824683) 4.35 Smart (1) (1527935) 5.00 Newsround (1) (6072645) 5.10 Byloir Grove (1)

5.35 MEIGHEOURIS (T) (954916) 6.00 NEWS (1) and weather (799) 6.30 REGIONAL NEWS MAGAZINES (751) 7.00 WATCHDOG (I) (3867)

7.30 EASTENDERS (1) (935) 8.00 ANIMAL HOSPITAL presented by Rolf Harris. A reunion with Oscar, the rare albino Californian king snake (T) (2515) 8.30 2POINT4 CHILDREN Ben tries to give. Janny the benefit of his wisdom (T) (1022) 9.00 NEWS (1) REG weather (2732)

30 BUDGET RESPONSE: Liberal Democrat Treasury Spekesman (1)

9.40 THE THIN BLUE LIME Fly on the Wall With Rowen Alkinson. A BBC crew come to Gesforth to make a documentary

about policing (T) (841190) CROCODI E SHOES:
Riumning Man Released from
prison, Jed resigns himself to a life
outside the music business (T) (425175) 11.05 QUESTION TIME David Dimbleby chairs a debate from London. His penellists are the Financial Secretary to penellists are the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Michael Jack, MP, Shadov Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Alietzir Darling, MP, Liberal Democrat Treasury Spokesmen, Malcolm Bruce, MP, and

Dame Pauline Neville-Jones, a managing director of NetWest Markets (1) (829451) 12.05am CLIVE ANDERSON ALL TALK with Geena Davis, Andrew Neil and Jim Davidson (r) (T) (7408829)

12.40 SNOCKER: The UK Champlonship Highlights from the last two quarter-finals. (1548707) 1.40 WEATHER (1879558)

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BBC2

6.00am OPEN UNIVERSITY: Science :-Matters (5359664) 6.50 The Chemistry of Creativity (9875916) 7.15 See Hear News (6907206) 7.30 Perils of Penelope Pitstop (4675683) 7.55 Blue Peter (7103577) 8.20 Noddy (3201916) 8.35 The Record (6416596) 9.00 The IT Collection (1027480) 9.25 The Art (6893916) 9.45 Writing and Pictures (233652) 10.00 Playdays (28312) 10.30 Storytime (3446138) 10.45 Teaching Today (956080) 11.15 Practising Bellef (7619003) 11.30 Showcase (1320954) 11.35 Landmarks (6122596) 11.55 Bellef File (6714138) 12.15pm Hallo Aus Design (9446634) 12.30 Working Lunch (60799) 1.00 Lifeschool (99313461) 1.25 Mad About Music (39246008) 1.45 Numbertime (14998867) 2.00 Noddy (56015461)

2.10 THE FUGITIVE (5315954) 3.00 NEWS (4735119) 3.05 WESTMINSTER (6223374) 3.55 NEWS (5455867)

4.00 SNOOKER See BBC1 (1356) 6.00 STAR TREK: Deep Space Nine (I) 6.45 SNOOKER (450312)

7.30 FIRST SIGHT (577) WALES: The Works EAST: Matter of Fact MIDLANDS: Midlands Report NORTH/NORTH EAST/NORTH WEST: Close Up North SOUTH: Southern Eye THE WORKS How top

comedy formats are sold to American television (T) (5747) WALES: Roll Over Beethow 8.30 TOP GEAR A visit to the annual Beetle Bash. Plus a review of the latest turbodiesels (T) (9664)



John Lithgow as Dick (9.00pm)

9,00 3RD ROCK FROM THE SUN Dick (John Lithgow) experiences the emotion of jealousy for the first time (1) (8454) 9.30 THE MIND TRAVELLER with Oliver Sacks. Usher's Syndrome: being born deaf and going blind (T) (471393) 10.20 10 X 10: Isle of Dogs (623041)

10.30 BUDGET RESPONSE by the Liberal Democrat Treasury Spoke (516935)

10.35 NEWSNIGHT (T) (677436) 11,20 LATE REVIEW with Mark Lawson, Germaine Greer, Howard Jacobson and Jim White (633751).

12.05am THE MIDNIGHT HOUR (4481639) 12.35 THE LEARNING ZONE: OPEN UNIVERSITY: Design for an Alien World (8118894) 1.00 Mapping the Milky Way (73455) 1.30 Jets and Black Holes (80233) 2.00 FETV Short Cuts: Human biology (44964) 4.00 Languages: Now You're Talking/Bon Mot (28928) 5.00 Business and Work: The Small Business Programme/20 Steps to Better Management (44900)

CHOICE The Works: Men Behaving Badly...in BBC2, 8.00pm (Wales, 7.30pm; Scotland,

tomorrow 6.45pm) With Till Death Us Do Part and Steptoe and Son, Beryl Vertue pioneered the selling of British sit-com formats to the United States. She is still doing it. Her latest project is a transatlantic version of the show she produces, Men Behaving Badly. The film follows Vertue to Hollywood and provides an insight into different approaches to putting cornedy on the screen. Vertue says the big difference is in the number of people involved, a huge factory against a cottage industry, though the ultimate test is what appears on the screen. With its American cast and dialogue, Men Behaving Badly is only a distant relative of the British version. Vertue, however, denies a watering down. As in Britain, this politically incorrect show

Women At Play: Jibby Beane, the Art Scene Channel 4, 8.00pm

Jibby Beane sounds likes an anagram but is an amalgam of nickname and married surname. She was an interior designer living with her husband and two children in respectable Surrey when, at the age of 50, she decided to cut loose and become a free spirit. She left her spouse for a man half her age, set ip an art gallery in her spacious Bayswa flat and started a new job as a fashion model for Vivienne Westwood. Beane is as flamboyant as this CV might suggest, everyone "darling", showing off her immense collection of eight-inch platform shoes and generally determined to flaunt herself. Those tempted to emulate Beane may reflect that it needs money as well as chutzpah. The flat was not cheap, nor was her Mercedes. Where the money came from

The Turner Prize Channel 4. 9.00pm

Douglas Gordon is best known for projecting Alfred Hitchcock's film Psycho without sound and slowing it down to run 24 hours. Simon Patterson's fame rests on a version of the London Underground map with the stations renamed after such luminaries as Oliver Reed, Kirk Douglas and Groucho Marx. All of which seems to belong more to pastiche than art, if you regard art as an original creative process regard art as an original creative process and not simply having fun with somebody else's work. But it may be best to stifle such objections for both Gordon and Patterson have been shortlisted for the 1996 Turner Prize, along with the relatively more conventional Craigie Horsfield (photographer) and Gary Hume (painter).

Crocodile Shoes: Running Man BBC1, 10.10pm

The original Crocodile Shoes was a patchy affair and a big disappoinment after Jimmy Nail's bold and original Spender. After a halting start, the sequel is proving to be a happier project, perhaps because Nail (who is creator and writer as well as star) is back on home territory. Tonight's episode, in on home territory. Tonight's episode, in which Nail's singer-songwriter returns to Tyneside, has all the Spender pleasures, from the harsh industrial backcloth to Sammy Johnson as the fall-guy who bites back. The plotting is sure, the laconic dialogue a joy and those who fail to warm to Nail's singing can be assured that there is very little of it. Among a raft of credible characters there is one caricature, a grubby tabloid journalist trying to collect dirt on our hero. The repeated humiliation of this wretched hack suggests that Nail had reallife scores to settle.

Peter Waymark

6.00am GMTV (1405041) 9.25 SUPERMARKET SWEEP (1024393) 9.55 REGIONAL NEWS (2833190) 10.00 THE TIME ... THE PLACE (22138) 10,30 THIS MORNING (24842596) 12.20pm REGIONAL NEWS (T) (4618645) 12.30 NEWS and weather (T) (4784515) 12.55 SHORTLAND STREET (4769206)

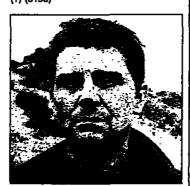
1.25 CORONATION STREET (r) (T) 2.00 HOME AND AWAY (T) (57817916) 2.25 CROSS WITS (I) (57829751) 2.50 VANESSA (T) (6630041) 3.20 NEWS (T) (4742409)

3.25 REGIONAL NEWS (T) (4734480) 3.30 THE RIDDLERS (3244770) 3.40 Wizadora (7174732) 3.50 The Sylvester and Tweety Mysteries (3255886) 4.05 Scooby Doc (9254515) 4.15 Name That Toor! (5370577) 4.40 Out of Sight (4721596)

5.10 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (7029225) 5.40 NEWS and weather (T) (403867) 6.00 HOME AND AWAY (r) (T) (502190) 6.25 HTV NEWS (1) (101374) 7.00 EMMERDALE (1) (8935)

7.30 THE BIG STORY Dermot Murnaghan investigates the Church of Scientology (913) 8.00 THE BILL Skase and Hollis demonstrate two differing approaches to police work

when a pretty young journalist spends the day at Sun Hill (T) (7683) 8,30 IS IT LEGAL? Office Party Will Dick find out why everybody is avoiding eye contact the morning after the office party?



Reece Dinadale as Di Scott (9.00om

9.00 THIEF TAKERS The trial of Frank McGrath collapses, prompting Scott (Reece Dinsdale) to consider his future in the Met (T) (9157)

10.00 NEWS and weather (T) (20683) **10.30 REGIONAL NEWS (269**515) 10.40 BUDGET 96; THE LIBERAL **DEMOCRATS** (523225)

10.50 Fil.M: Billy Bathgate (1991) It is the Depression and a young man who wants to get ahead hitches his wagon to New York's most feared underworld figure. Everything is hunky dary until the youngster talks for the gangster's girthrend. With Dustin Hoffman, Loren Dean and Nicole Kidman. Directed by

12.45am THE WAR OF THE WORLDS

1.40 NOT FADE AWAY (4828184) 2.40 FLUX (2638320)

3.40 LATE & LOUD (r) (7383207) 4.30 THE TIME ... THE PLACE (58146) 5.00 HEROES (r) (33349) (86963119) **5.30 MORNING NEWS (24558)**

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.55pm HOME AND AWAY (4769206) 1.25 CROSS WITS (39325206)

1.55 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (24896393) 2.20 VANESSA (57811732) 2.50-3.20 HIGH ROAD (6630041) 5.10-5.40 SHORTLAND STREET (7029225)

6.25 CENTRAL NEWS AND WEATHER (527409) 6.55-7.00 LIFELINE: TRANQUILLISERS

(473409) 12.50mm PLANET ROCK PROFILES (3920900)

1.20 THE PANASONIC SOUND BLAST AWARDS (9071726) 2.15 NOT FADE AWAY (430894) 3.15 FLUX (436078) 4.15 JOBFINDER (5630981)

WESTCOUNTRY

5.20 ASIAN EYE (1825962)

As HTV West except: 12.55 EMMERDALE (4769206) 1.25-1.55 CROSSWITS (39325206) 1.55 HOME AND AWAY (29579867)

2.25 VANESSA (57810003) 2.55 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (1085157) 5.10-5.40 HOME AND AWAY (7029225) 6.00-7.00 WESTCOUNTRY LIVE (32916)

MERCHAN

As HTV West except: 12.55 CROSS WITS (4769206) 1.25 HOME AND AWAY (39325206) 1.55 SHORTLAND STREET (24896393) 2.20 VANESSA (57811732)

2.50-3.20 HOUSEPARTY (6630041) 5.10 HOME AND AWAY (7029225) 6.00 MERIDIAN TONIGHT, (867). 6.30-7.00 ANYTHING YOU CAN DO (119) 4.30am BEYOND REASON (58146) 5.00 FREESCREEN (33349)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except: 12.55om CROSS WITS (4769206) 1.25 HOME AND AWAY (39325206) 1.55 JUSTICE OF THE LAND (24896393) 2.20 VANESSA (57811732)

2.50-3.20 PERFECTLY PETS (6630041) 5.10-5.40 SHORTLAND STREET (7029225) 6.25 ANGLIA WEATHER (428799) 6.30-7.00 ANGLIA NEWS (119)

Starts: 6.35am PRO STARS (9889119) 7.00 THE BIG BREAKFAST (67799) 9.00 HERE'S THE BIG BREAKFAST (67799) 9.00 HERE'S ONE 1 MADE EARLIER (73472) 9.30 VSGOLION (862003) 12.00 HOUSE TO HOUSE (27596) 12.30pm TRUMPTON (17786848) 12.45 ALFIE ATKINS (17774003) 1.00 SLOT METHRIN (60886) 1.30 FIIm: PETTICOAT PIRATES (27008461) 2.05 FRESH POP (2564138) 3.15 RICKI LAKE (6834954) 4.00 FIFTEEN-TO-ONE (732) 4.30 RIDE ON (918) 5.00 5 PUMP (9041) 5.30 COUNTDOWN: THE SEARCH FOR THE SUPREME CHAMPION (596) 6.00 NEWYDDION (133119) 6.05 HENO (520596) 6.35 SION A SIAN (495461) 7.00 POBOL Y 6.35 SION A SIAN (489461) 7.00 POBOL T CWM (630867) 7.25 PENBLWYDD HAPUS (412312) 8.00 CYW HAUL (5225) 8.30 NEWYDDION (4732) 9.00 CANT Y CAR (7799) 10.00 BROOKSIDE (726515) 10.35 Film: NIGHT SHIFT (86970409) 12.35em

CHANNELYA TO THE

6.35am PRO STARS (9889119) 7.00 The Big Breaklast (67799) 9.00 Here's One I Made Earlier (73472) 9.30 Schools: Middle English 9.45 The Maths Programme 11.05 Scientific Eye 10.25 Geographical Eye 10.45 Le Petit Monde de Pierre 11.00 Geographical Eye 11.20 Film and Video Showcase 11.40 The Spanish Programme (862003) 12.00 House to House (27596) 12.30pm Trumpton (17786948) 12.45 Alfre Alkins (17774003) 1.00 Sesame Street (43022) 2.00 Mongo Makongo (56040157)

2.10 THE LIVING SEA: Jewel of the Caribbean The coral reef of the island of Saba (T) (70378954)

2.40 FILM: Challenger: Part Two (1990) Conclusion of the lilm about the seven Challenger crew members of the doomed mission (5468312) 4.00 FIFTEEN-TO-ONE (T) (732)

4.30 COUNTDOWN (T) (916) 5.00 RICKI LAKE (T) (5693480) 5.45 HIPPY CRITICAL (r) (T) (777954) 6.00 NEW GAMESMASTER (1) (409)

6.30 HOLLYOAKS (T) (461) 7.00 CHANNEL 4 NEWS (T) (503003) 7.50 THE SLOT (339886)

8.00 WOMEN AT PLAY Profile of Libby Beane, who at the age of 50 reinvented herself as a model for the catwalk of Vivienne Westwood (1) (5225) 8.30 BROOKSIDE Can Jimmy face the tuture without Jackie? Bev is devastated when Jimmy live up to his promise to change?

9.00 TURNER PRIZE 1996 Live coverage from the Tate Gallery (T) (7799)



Crissy Rock plays Maggie (10.00pm)

10.00 FiLM: Ladybird, Ladybird (1994) Ken Loach's internationally-

coclaimed film inspired by real events.

This is the story of Magge, whose children have been taken from her by the Social Services because of a previous. violent relationship. She falls in love with a Latin American refugee and sees a chance of happiness. But her history still haunts her. Starring Crissy Rock (T)

11.55 MOVIEWATCH (r) (219770) 12.25am THE NIGHTMARE YEARS The inve story of an American journalist working

for an international news service in Germany in 1934. With Sam Waterson and Ronald Pickup (1/4) (r) (T) (326829) 2.15 BERNARD HERRMANN: Music for the Movies (r) (438436) 3.15 STEEL DRUMS (r) (76822813)

3.20 FILM: Black Hand (b/w, 1949) with Gene Kelly as an idealistic Italian-American who, with the help of a police inspector, cracks a Mafia-like mob Directed by Richard Thorpe (994726)

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable els, see the Directory,

published on Saturday

SKY 1 7.00em Love Connection (3193138) 7.26 Press Your Luck (3173374) 7.40 Jeopard (5134577) 8.10 Hotel (6210515) 8.00 Another World (5057978) 8.45 Opah Wintrey (5645472) 10.40 Fisel 1V (7852883) 11.10 Selfy Jesey Raphael (985988) 12.00 Gezeldo (87480) 1.00pan 1 to 3 (54751) 3.00 Jenty Jones (87157) 4.00 Opah Wintrey (88574) 8.00 Star Trak (8954) 4.00 The Niew Adventures of Supermis (83654) Wilney (20074) 5.00 Stat The Resemble 2007 The New Adventures of Supermer (88564) 7.00 The Simpsons (8863) 7.30 MrA'S'TI (2409) 8.00 Sightings (23883) 9.00 Nesh Bridges (20115) 10.00 Star Tiek (22206) 11.00 The New Adventures of Supermer (90041) 12.00 LAPD (50287) 12.30em Real TV (47881) 1.00 Hit Mr. (50839)

SKY 2 9.00 Deliberate Stranger (1941080) 11.00 Late Show, with David Letterman (2954003) 12.00 FILM: After Midnight (8353320) 2.00cm Hs Mix Long Play (7308271)

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week SKY MOVIES SKY MOVIES

6.15am Caught in the Crossitive (1994) (25514867) 8.00 The Ranger, the Cook and a Hole in the Sky (1995) (55857) 10.00 Revenge of the Nards IV (1994) (7948) 12.00 Seasoly (1965) (4916) 2.00pm The Only Gaste in Town (1965) (4788) 4.60 Perilous Journey (1963) (4788) 4.60 Perilous Journey (1963) (4788) 4.60 Perilous Journey (1963) (4788) 4.60 Perilous Journey (1964) (81516041) 7.40 US Top 10 (41916) 1.00 Highly Marphia Power Rangera (1965) 5.0022) 9.30 The Mante Show (30577) 10.00 On Deathy Ground (1964) (257683) 11.85 The Saint of Fort Westington (1963) (502160) 1.40am

6.00mm A-Haumling We WH the (1942). (61393) 7.30 Ben-Hur (1968) (6440) 6330 The Gnomes' Great Adventure (68130)

10.00 Brighess Young (1940) (77003)
12.00 Trapped in Paradise (1994) (46732) 2.00 pm The Other Woosen (1995) (45428) 4.00 Tressure Island (1974) (42791062) 5.45 Lloence to Kill (1995) (60518590-8.00 She Stood Alorne: The Tailhook Scandal (1995) (37400) 10.00 Paradist Lives (1994) (525119) 11.45 Goodbye Emmarania (1977) (18866) 1.25cm House of Secreta (1994) (251417) 3.05 Shaidow of the Past (1995) (318417) 4.40 The Gnomen' Great Adventure (65441417)

SKY MOVIES GOLD 4.00pm The Baskleys of Broadway (1949) (8550429) 4.00 East of Edon (1955) (2190722) 8.00 The January Man (1966) (2102577) 10.00 Bachelor Party (1964) (7675022) 11.50 The Precident's Austyst (1967) (1382429) 1.35 mm The Jesticry Man (1966) (8853140) 3.20-4.55 Vispolous Lady (1963) (1242676) THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Montes Gold takes over at 10pm.
8.00mm Mouse Tracks (6458751) 8.25
Cusak Asack (647786) 8.50 Bonkers (8838799) 7.15 Darkwing Duck (8613857)
7.40 Aladdin (5821864) 8.05 Gold Troop (9553044) 8.30 Timon and Pumba (2503845) 8.40 Bonkers (2334383) 9.05
Motoss Tracks (6874848) 9.30 Bg Gerags (250345) 8.40 Borbard (250454) 9.30 Big Garage (7151732) 9.45 Limb Chop (257022) 10.15 Mappet Babes (8769648) 10.40 Adventures in Wonderland (2616138) 11.10 Quack Attack (7831119) 11.40 Under the Umbreff Trile (963587) 12.10pm Fraggie Rock (8851789) 12.95 Lamb Chop (8269959) 1.05 Mouse Tracks (99053845) 1.30 Aladdin (61298206) 1.55 Dariswing Duck (61207225) 2.25 Disnly Presents (900018) 2.00 Quack Attack (7252848) 3.20 Mouse Tracks (2141577) 3.55 Borliers (9638848) 4.15 God Imosp (7653683) 4.35 Quireling Duck (7438751) 5.00 Aladdin (1133732) 5.25 Timon and Pumback (1133732) 5.25 Timon and Pumback (9267577) 5.35 Borliers (122480) 8.00 Borschillers (6645) 6.30 Brossom (6175) 7.00 Home Improvement (81895) 9.00 Brossery Love (828965) 9.30-19.00 Home Improvement (7157) SKY SPORTS 1

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00em Sports Cerate (34409) 7.30 American Sports Cavalcade (93916) 8.30 Racing News (44312) 9.00 Sports Cerate (3598) 9.30 Gass Roots Ruply (7283) 10.00 Fusion Municipi (88374) 10.30 Golf: Sun City Milion Dollar Chaitenge — Live (9700374) 3.30pm Gress Roots Rugby (9577) 4.00 Futbol Mundel (1312) 4.30 World of Saling (7596) 4.59 Sports Centre (7530645) 5.00 Trens World Sport (4770) 6.00 Sports Centre (9451) 6.30 Netbusters (71886) 7.30 Centre (8461) 6.30 Netbusters (71809) 7.2w Ica. Hockey, Ary v Marchester — Live (817515) 10.00 Sports Centre (58157) 10.30 Tight Lines (32111) 11.30 World of Saling (15886) 12.00 Saling (88225) 12.30am Sports Centre (90097) 1.00 Netbusters (79875) 2.00 Spanish Footbell (81184) 4.00-4.30 Sports Centre (21728) SKY SPORTS 2

8.00pm Tight Lines (4518867) 9.00 Span-sh, Footbell (4511954) 11.00 Footbell Scrapbook (2959683) 12.90-1,00am Rug-by Union: Hall of Pame (1829097) SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Beach Volleyball (25790428) 1.00pm Cocs-Cota Cup (96368799) 3.00 Ni-1, toe Hockey: Colorado v Phoenix (55787845) 5.00 Sports Unlimited (36824409) 6.00 Beach Volleyball (25786312) 7.00 Sports Certira (36825138) 7.30 Football Laggue Review (82494428) 9.00 Golf. Sun City Million Dollar Challenge (72188624) 11.30-12,00 Sports Centre (96336190)

EUROSPORT EUROSPORT

7.30em Equestranom (11312) 8.20 Suring (39480) 9.00 Snowboarding (20732)
9.30 Extreme Games (86577) 10.30
Paragiding (23916) 11.00 Motors (17732)
12.00 Table Terrics Men's World Cup (57374) 1.00pra Snowboarding: FIS World Championships — Live (88022) 2.00
Eurolun (6751) 2.30 Mountainbide 3.30
Canosing: 12th Kayet Marathon (4646)
4.00 Carrosing (1413765) 4.15 Free Climong (8155636) 4.30 Olympic Magazine (2664) 5.00 World Chempionship — Live (500709) 6.15 Futse World Chempionship (473138) 7.00 Extreme Games (32041) 9.00 Finepoids 9.30 Snowboarding (58003) 10.00 Finesports (37428) 11.00 Seiling (51515) 11.30 Tennis (24634) 12.00 Free Climbing (7032078) 12.15-12.30 Centreing (7128629)
CSRAMADDA PLUS

GRANADA PLUS 6,00am Rumay (3315208) 6.30 Once Upon a Time (65945799) 6.45 Our Back-Opon a Time (ease-579) Alphabet Zoo (2177119) 7.18 Once Upon a Time (6211022) 7.30 The Return of the Anticlope (8431289) 8.00 Classic Coronation Street



Carey Lowell and Timothy Dalton (Movie Channel, 5.45pm)

(1152684) 8.30 Rumway (1151935) 9.00 Families (1175515) 9.30 Abion Market (5280396) 10.00 Goostrey, a Village, Part Two (703409) 10.30 Leave It to Chedie (1171799) 11.00 Love for Lycle (8431008) 12.00 Classic Coronalson Street (1155751) 12.80 Cassic Coronation Street (1155751)
12.30pm Surgical Spirit (S243-12) 1.00 The Practice (2931044) 1.30 Families (5263683)
2.00 Alter the War (7035138) 3.00 Leave It to Charle (7126883) 3.30 Seven up in Souffi Africa (7607190) 4.00 Sem (1433646) 5.00 Love for Lydia (7117855) 6.00 Coronation Street (7603374) 6.30 Families (7627954) 7.00 The Army Game (7118684) 7.30 Surgical Sport (76273138) 6.00 Shades of Darkness (6682119) 9.00 Coronation Street (504528) 8.35 The Good Life Guide (1033119) 10.00-11.00 Sam (6578770) From 11.00pm-2.00sm Men and Motors

GRANADA GOOD LIFE From 8.00am-8.00 TV High Street. Includes consumer news and features and Your Slace presented by Russel Grant From 9.00-12.00 Food and Wine. Includes recipes and ideas from Delia Smith From 12.00-3.00pm Health and Seauty. Includes Natural Health Street. 200-5.00 Home and Seauty. From 3.00-5.00 Home and Garden.

A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR

THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4.00pm Biography: Claopatra (2021732) 5.00 Hollywood (2889684) 6.00 The War in the East (1308645) 7.00-8.00 Biography: THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

irom Spen-dean Monday to Wednesday and leam-dean Thursday to Wednesday and leam-dean Thursday to Sunday on catellie. and from Sem-dean every day on catellie. 1.00em The Twilight Zone (8437900) 1.30 Teles of the Unexpected (2412252) 2.00 New Alfred Hitchcock (5422788) 2.30 Night Gallery (5434523) 3.00 Friday the 13th (3330320) 3.88-4.00 Quarts (34555078) TLC/DISCOVERY

9.00am The Joy of Parring 9.30 The Great Gardening Piot 10.00 Go Fishing 10.30 House Style (1610041) 11.86 The Restora-tion Game (8776206) 11.30 Crathwee 87776326 12.00 Julia Chall (1801939) 12.30pm Greham Kerr (3256549) 1.00 Yan Can Cook (9600472) 1.30 Home Again (8101460) 2.90 Furnature to Go (2632645) 2.30 Secret Gardens (8905374) 3.00 Febring Adventures (2544480) 3.30 This Old House (9317119)

DISCOVERY takes over at 4.00pm.
4.00pm Fishing Adventures (83/2954) 4.30
Diving Passions (82/25139) 5.00 Time
Travellers (26/66/225) 5.30 Terra X (88/09190)
6.00 Wild Things (8301696) 7.00 Next-Slep
(83/26/61) 7.30 Mystenous Universe
(83/26/61) 7.30 Mystenous Universe
(83/26/61) 8.00 Tip Next-Slep
(83/26/61) 1.00 Top Narques 2 (87/87/70)
9.30 Fightine (33/51193) 10.00 Classic
Wheels (59/50/3) 11.00 Secret Safelite
(84/50139) 12.00 The Professionals
(1838/813) 1.00mm High Five (1947/97)
1.30-2.00 Paramedica (23/54/36) UK GOLD

7.00em Going for Gold (2217935) 7.35
Cossroeds (4294190) 8.00 Neighbours (2608157) 8.25 EastEnders (2879022) 9.00
The Bit (1622515) 9.30 One by One (7817480) 10.30 The Sulkvans (16297991) 11.00 Sothly Sobby (1400454) 12.00 Crossroads (356552390) 12.25 per Neighbours (35655480) 12.55 EastEnders (3427751) 1.30 Terry and June (6486157) 2.10 A Little Rt of Errey (34391003) 2.20 Rush Strokes (4208867) 3.00 Safe of the Century (2633138) 3.30 The Bit (8819577) 4.00 Howards Way (8769916) 5.00 EastEnders (1452738) 5.35 Crossroads (3946751) 6.00 Get Some int (8908461) 8.30 Ever Decreasing Crotless (5021208) 7.05 Bib 's Full House (5708393) 7.45 The Other One (1456670) 8.20 Victoria Wood (8008639 9.00 The Equation (59467639) 11.15 Teggart (3477969) 12.15em Rowland Rwon Bates the Butlet (8947639) 12.45 FRLIR: Hands of the Ripper (21305184) 2.10 Shopping at Night TCC

6.00am Swan's Crossing (6447645) 6.20
Methdown (6441451) 6.45 Hellway across the Galaxy and Turn Left (761022) 7.15
Ready or Not (768935) 7.45 Calfornia Dreams (767206) 2.15 Swaet Valley High (205041) 8.45 Art Atlack (7682225) 9.00
Tiny and Crew (6639225) 9.20 Brum (6619461) 9.40 Johnson and Rose (8766515) 10.20 Philbert the Frog (2394312) 10.40 Creeke Chair, (7693274) 11.00 Denobabes (65596) 11.30 Animal Show (66225) 12.00 Barney (82596) 12.30 pm Where's Wally? (10657) 1.00 Casper and Friends (39008) 1.30 Tiny and Crew (61295460) 1.55 Johnson and Friends (13130312) 2.20 Burney (10050664) 2.40 Mr Benn (9042848) 3.00 Halfway across the Galaxy and Turn Left (1848) 3.30

Ready or Not (3935) 4.00 California Dreams (5770) 4.30-5.00 Sweet Valley High (1954) NICKELODEON

8.00am Teenage Mulani Hero Turties (30770) 6.30 Biker Moe from Mars (93664) 7.00 Rocko's Modern Life (7171916) 7.15 Hey Amoid (4563664) 7.30 Rugrats (4486) 8.00 Doug (43683) 8.30 Aanhi Real Monsters (42954) 9.00 Where on Earth is Carmen Sandego' (32006) 9.30 Wishibone (70225) 10.00 Benanas in Pyjernas (5946598) 10.10 Kete and Orbe (5219954) 10.35 Mr Men (9687845) 10.45 Barreras in Pyjernas (9607409) 11.00 BBC Block (20206) 12.00 Clarsas (46770) 12.30peri Setter Sister (74041) 1.00 BBC Block (20206) 12.00 Clarsas (46770) 12.30peri Setter Sister (74041) 1.00 BBC Block (10206) 12.00 Clarsas (46770) 12.30peri Setter Sister (75040) (73102) 2.00 Little Bear Stones (8225) 2.30 BBC Block (61409) 3.30 Aaahi Real Monsters (7119) 4.00 Bruno the K.d (9954) 4.30 Rugrats (1844428) 4.45 Doug (1822663) 5.00 Sister Sister (9557) 5.30 Moestra (9190) 6.00 Round the Twist (6003) 6.30-7.00 Are You Alrad of the Dark? (3193)

PARAMOUNT

7.00pm Diffrent Strokes (3041) 7.30 Berson (6867) 8.00 Due South (60751) 9.00 Aknost Perfect (29916) 8.30 Tax (51577) 10.00 Entertamment Tonghi (54799) 10.30 Plying Blind (30119) 11.00 Manmade News (24451) 11.30 Nightstand (44157) 12.30am Stedge Hammer (98639) 1.00 Due South (77417) 2.00 Entertamment Tonghi (80748) 2.30 Manmade News (17523) 3.00 Plying Blind (74233) 3.30-4.00 Almost Perfect (30225) BRAVO

12.00 Fantasy Island (4606080) 1.00pm Remingson Steele (4806289) 2.00 Automan (2066461) 3.00 The Chempons (8775577) 4.00 FILM: The Mediusa Touch (2642022) 6.00 Joe 90 (8933157) 8.30 Captan Scarlet 7.00 The Water Marger (5913886) 8.00 Starsky and Hutch (5998206) 9.00 Crims Story (5902770) 10.00-12.00 FILM: The Pemisher (8774848)

UK LIVING

6,00mm Karay (4867664) 7,00 The Agony 8,00mm Karoy (4867864) 7.00 The Agony Experience (4163041) 7.30 The Young and the Restless (6474393) 8,20 Ken Homis Chrisse Cookery (5838138) 8,56 Turnabou (7298225) 9,35 Call the Doctor (7967206) 10,00 Entertamment Now! (3992916) 10,05 Jeny Springer (7794515) 11,00 The Young and the Restless (8563515) 11,55 Brookside (94639652) 12.25pm Trivial Pursuit (93654770) 12.50 Gabrielle (3197913) 1.40 Robinda (6173119) 2.30 The Agony Experience (4753022) 3.00 Live at Three (9038501) 4.00 Who's Sorr, Nov' (4744374) 4.00 Talkahout (9080951 5.05 Lingo (92911935) 5.30 Liucky Ladders (4764136) 6.00 Bewitched (4754751) 6.30 Ready. Steedy. Cook (6941867) 7.05 Brookside (4650751) 7.35 Trivial Pursuit (2710190) 8.00 General Practice (219903) 9.00 FLMIs Cast the First Stone (19741312) 10.50 Entertainment Now' (7574732) 11.00-12.00 The Spicy Sex Files FAMILY CHANNET

FAMILY CHANNEL 5.00pm Blockbusters (6393) 5.30 Treasure Hunt (65948) 6.30 Catchphrase (3799) 7.00 The Pyramd Game (6157) 7.30 Hart to Hart (24312) 8.30 Duty Free (4312) 9.00 Bergerac (93003) 10.00 Ruth Rendell Mystenes (96190) 11.00 Ruth (1954) 11.00 Moonlighting (48233) 1.00um Bergerac (13233) 2.00 Hart to Hart (90455) 3.00 Moonlighting (71417) 4.00 All Together Now (65184) 4.30-5.00 The Black Station MTV

The 24 hour music channel, includes news, reviews, live concert tootage, interviews and the latest music video charts.

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran 7.30 Lifestyle East 8.30 Pal-stan Business Updare 9.00 Hrl Tri Hrl Hai 9.30 Your Zindegl 10.00 Bharat Eli Khō; 11.00 Shaku 11.30 Banegi 4pn Baar 12.00 Dastaan 12.30pm Ag. Di Kahan 1,00 Hindl FILM: Intelha Pyar 10 4.00 ZEE Too 10 5.00 ZEE Zone 5.30 Kys Scene Hai 6.00 Punjab Foli 6.30 ZEE and You 7.00 Ten Bri Chup Men Bri Chup 7.30 Contemaga 8.00 News and Euronews 8.30 Andar 9.00 Urtu Scrael, Jaal 9.30 Hasrotain 10.00 Commander 10.30 Chehre 11.00 Zee Hottor Show 11.30-12.00 Aap Kramash

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT Continuous cartoons from 5cm to 9pm, then TNT films as below. 9.00pm Kim (1950) (38227393) 11.00 The Rouring Tyanties (1939) (12725374) 12.55am 36 Hours (1964) (33555610-2.55-5.00 Kim (1950) (78200165)



THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28 1996

Lure for former world champion

Jordan attempt to match Mansell's drive

Mansell's triumph four years ago, was still waiting yester-

that manslaughter proceed-ings against Frank Williams,

Patrick Head and others over

the death of Ayrton Senna at

Imola in May 1994 were about

however, that the team that

won the constructors' champ-

ionship for the fourth time in

five years this season may be fighting two court cases early

next year after it was revealed

at the weekend that Williams

are in dispute with their highly-regarded chief design-

they failed to consult him

about the replacement of Hill

he said, "is to complete the design of next season's car and

stay with Williams for the first few races of next year. After

that, it is a bit of a grey area

but it would seem silly to have to sit on the other side of a

court-room to Frank in order

to sort it out. If it comes to a court case, i suppose it will

happen some time in March." That month will also now definitely witness the addition of the Stewart Grand Prix team to Formula One, Jackie

Unveiling a new one-year sponsorship deal with the

Malaysian Government,

thought to be worth £8 mil-lion, Stewart said he had now raised the necessary money to fund his first year in grand prix racing.
Alessandro Nannini, the former Formula One driver, and Flavio Briatore, the general manager of the Benetton

team, were confirmed vesterday as members of a group of investors who have bought a 70 per cent stake in Minardi,

the Italian team.

"What I would like to do,"

by Heinz-Harald Frentzen...

It seems increasingly likely,

to be announced.

er, Adrian Newey.

for official notification

THE Jordan Formula One motor racing team lost out in the race to sign Damon Hill last month, but it may yet have a British world champion in its ranks next season. Nigel Mansell, it emerged yesterday, is considering a surprise return to the sport with the Irish team.

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Representatives of Jordan, who have already secured the signature of Ralf Schumacher, the younger brother of Michael, are thought to have con-tacted Mansell in the immediate aftermath of the announcement of Hill's move to TWR Arrows.

world championship in 1992 after several near misses, has consistently refused to rule out retirement despite his ill-fated partnership with McLaren at the beginning of the 1995 season and is still weighing up the Jordan proposal. He said in the latest edition of his autobiography that his desire

to race had not dimmed. His wage demands are likely to be the biggest obstacle to a deal but Benson and Hedges, Jordan's title sponsor, was bitterly disappointed when they missed out on Hill and are desperate to recruit a big name to spearhead what is likely to be a crucial season for the team, the last year of its three-year engine deal with

Jordan had hoped that rumours of a disagreement between Jean Alesi and Benetton might drive the Frenchman to them, but Alesi snuffed out that possibility once and for all in Estoril on Tuesday when he denied categorically that a move to Jordan had been

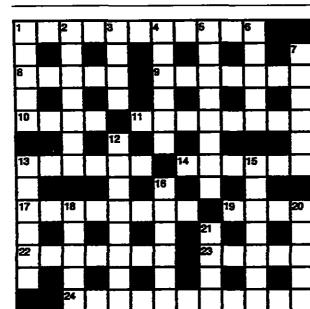
Neither Mansell, who may also have offers to return to the American IndyCar series, which he won in 1993, nor Jordan would comment on the prospects of his return to Formula One last night. Martin Brundle, who drove impressively for the team towards the end of the season after a shaky start, is waiting anxiously in the wings.

Newey, who is being wooed by McLaren, confirmed yes-terday that he is no longer Williams, the team that working at the team's factory provided the equipment for in Grove, Oxfordshire. His contract with Williams runs until 1999 but he believes Williams breached it when



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ACROSS

1 Business/professional section of society (6,5)

8 Hydrophobic (5) 9 A little hungry (7)

10 Violent criminal (4)

11 Antlered Arctic beast (8) 13 N African desert (6)

14 Departs; foliage (6)

17 Official record book (8) 19 Treat deliberately rudely (4)

22 Spanish Fascist movement

23 Showy success (5) 24 Instant lottery ticket (7,4)

in bath (5) 2 Corrupt, deprave (7)

Outdoor public pool (4) Coin: policeman (6) Stressed (8)

Secretly add alcohol to (5)

Part of verse all join in (6) 12 Captive (8)

13 Part of neck grabbed (6) 15 White ice-cream flavour (7)

16 Modify harshness; hired again (6)

18 Heraldic red (5)

20 (Breath) fearfully held (5) 21 "She loves you, --,--"

(Beatles) (4)

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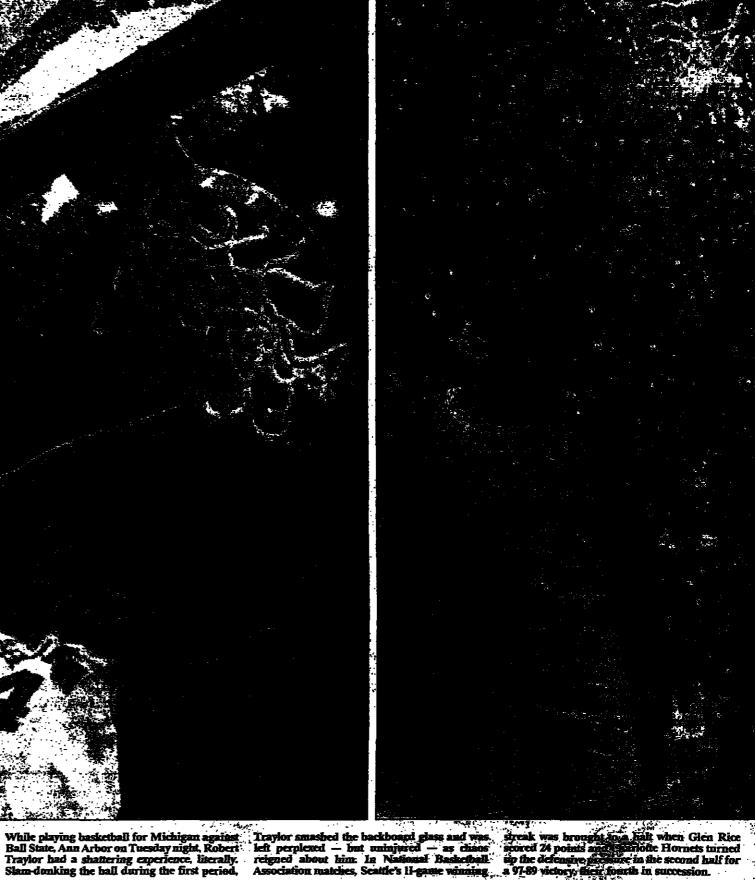
Post your entry to Times Two Crossword, PO Box 6886, London EZ 8SP to arrive by next Monday. The winners' names and solution will appear on Wednesday.

Name/Address

SOLUTION TO NO 950 ACROSS: 1 Literal 5 Mufti 8 Chess 9 Macbeth 10 Magnifico 12 Hub 13 Zombie 14 Alloat 17 Moa 18 Consensus 20 Imitate 21 Drawl 23 Nymph 24 Templar DOWN: 1 Locum 2 Tie 3 Rossini 4 Limpid 5 Macao 6 Fleshpots 7 Inhibit 11 Gymnasium 13 Zambian 15 Freedom 16 Invent 18 Coach 19 Solar 22 Awl

Traylor crashes with minimal injuries





Scotland head for Monaco

By DAVID MADDOCK

SCOTLAND may be looking forward to basking in the sunshine of the French Riviera next year, but the Estonian Football Association gave a frosty reception yesterday to the decision by Fifa, the world governing body, that the countries' abandoned World Cup qualifier should be staged in

Fifa has ruled that the group four fixture, called off when Estonia failed to show up in Tallinn on October 9, will now be held in the Principality on February II. Even before a ball has been kicked in anger for a second time, Ainar Leppanen, the Estonian FA secretary, has admitted the decision "is more fair to the Scottish Football Association

Esionia remain the "home" team, but the game will take place 1,400 miles south-west of Tallinn and at great cost to one of the poorer members of Fifa. Estonia had offered Cyprus and Azerbaijan as alternative venues, but Scotland rejected both, forcing Fifa's World Cup

committee to step in.

Northern Ireland will hear within the next 24 hours what is to become of their scheduled World Cup qualifying tie against Albania for December 14 in Belfast after Fifa's decision yesterday to suspend their opponents from the tournament. Fifa ruled that the Albanian Football Association was banned "until further notice" and would be ineligible to play any international matches after what it described as government interference in the running of

Fifa said that it acted after Albania's Ministry of Education and Sport suspended the

general secretary of the national association, Eduard Dervishi, and dissolved its executive committee. Albania lie at the bottom of group nine with one loss and one draw from their two games.

Phil Neal, the acting manager of Manchester City, has asked for assurances from Francis Lee, the club chairman, over his future at the club. Neal was put in charge of team affairs when Steve Coppell walked out after just 33 days, but is concerned about his position amid suggestions that a new manager

is to be appointed. Neal was told that he would be offered a trial period in which to prove himself worthy of the job on a full-time basis. Now, however, he wants Lee to confirm his position is secure. There has been speculation that an approach has been made to Howard Wilkinson, the former manager of

Leeds United. "There have been strong suggestions that the club is looking for another manager and I would like to know what is going on," Neal said. "If something is going on behind my back, I think it needs to be sorted out because I refuse to be used."

The former Liverpool player is unlikely, however, to receive any specific assurances from the chairman. It is understood that Lee and his board are becoming increasingly rest-less over results that have placed City in the bottom four clubs of the Nationwide League first division.

Sven Goran Ericsson, the Sampdoria coach last night dismissed rumours that he is to become manager of Black-

England's money game under fire

By David Hands, Rugby correspondent

JOHN HART, never a man to be daunted by a challenge. yesterday described the continuing dispute between England's leading clubs and the Rugby Football Union as a "cancer in the game". Hart, coach to the New Zealand Barbarians, who play England at Twickenham on Saturday, is thoroughly entitled to his perspective after the knock-on effect the dispute has

had on his players.

While the clubs met at Leicester to try to find an end to the disagreement. Hart sliced through the cant that has surrounded the entry of professionalism into English rugby. All of us in New Zealand have worked very hard to ensure that money is not the determinant of the way we play the game," he said. "I get very sad when I see this dispute here because it's not about the jersey and the players, it's about money and

"We were placed in a very embarrassing situation at the weekend by the players who withdrew from the Northern Counties team at Huddersfield. Some of our guys will go into Saturday's match without having played for six or eight weeks. We were asked by England to come over and play as part of their 125th birthday celebrations.

"I would be really sad if that happened in New Zealand to a side that came to us. It becomes even more embarrassing when the chibs choose to release players for your Barbarians to play against Australia." Hart underlined the disappointment felt by the whole party by revealing that Sean Fitzpatrick, his captain. had turned down the chance to

lead the French Barbarians last weekend, only to find himself involved at Huddersfield in a game (won by the New Zealanders 86-0) robbed

of any value.
Fitzpatrick's side on Saturday will include eight of the players who have been central to an outstanding year for New Zealand rugby, nine if Glen Osborne is included and ten bearing in mind the 1995 sensation, Jonah Lomu. Had the side been chosen solely on form. Osborne would have played on the wing but Hart has chosen to reward the switch by Joeli Vidiri, 22, from Fin to New Zealand by giving

him a starting place.
The New Zestand coach was also at pains to play down the England management's assessment of the game on Saturday as a quasi-interna-tional. This is not a Test but it will be a test of regby, attitude to rugby and how the game can be played. Hart said.

Scott Gibbs, the Swanses centre, missed the Wales training session yesterday in preparation for the international on Sunday against Australia in Cardiff. Gibbs is suffering from gastroenteritis but is expected to have recovered by tomorrow. Robert Howley, the Cardiff scrum half, should have thrown off a chest infection in time for a match for which ticket sales have soared past 40,000 since the announcement on Tuesday of Jonathan Davies's inclusion.

NEW ZEAL AND BEREARIANS: CORRECT Vide, A ferentie, L Stereches, J Lorse, A Methors, J Monthalt, M Allen, S Rispatch, Copciani, O Brown, M Jones, R Stocke, I Jones, A Blessen, T Fandell. Replacements: C Cobborne, C Spencer; M Robinson, G Taylor, D Mes, A Oliver



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